

**CLAPHAM cum NEWBY
Annual Parish Meeting
Thursday 18th May 2023
Minutes**

Present

Clapham cum Newby Parish council: Cllrs Colin Price (Chairman), John Dawson (Vice Chairman, Diane Elphinstone, Ann Sheridan, Maria Farrer
Steve Culver (Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer)
YDNPA: Robert Ashford
Parishioners: Martin Holroyd, Kathy Hall, Sue Mann, Ken Pearce, Brenda Pearce, Chris Hart, George Greenbank, Revd. John Davies, Hannah Renwick, Judith Dawson

1. Apologies: Cllr David Ireton, Philip Farrer (IE), Andy Scott (DDI, LG), Jill Buckler (SG) Ann Stewart, Nell Whitley (CPA)

2. Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on the 22nd March 2022 were accepted as a true and accurate record and were signed by Cllr Colin Price, Chairman of Clapham cum Newby Parish Council. There were no matters arising.

3. Report from chairman of the Parish Council- Appendix 1.

4. Reports from District and county Councillors, YDNPA representatives and Police

County & District Council – A report was read from Cllr David Ireton (Appendix 2)

A question was raised as to where the “local Office” would be and it was stated that at present this remains in Skipton

YDNPA – Rob Ashcroft delivered the Report (Appendix 3)

A concern regarding the surface of the cycle path by the A65 from Clapham to Austwick was raised as it is covered in very small stones and as such can be slippery on a bike. Rob Ashcroft agreed to take this away for a review.

Police – A Statement of the Incidents from the year was read out (Appendix 4)

5. Reports from community organisations etc.

St James' Church Clapham

Sue Mann delivered the report for St James' Church (Appendix 5)

St Matthew's Church Keasden

Revd. Davies spoke on behalf of St Matthew's. St Matthew's was built 150 years ago as a gift of the Farrer family and is now the only public building in Keasden. As such as well as being the Church St Matthew's held over 20 community events in the past year. Last weekend an exhibition was held to mark the 150 anniversary with over 200 people visiting. A new burial ground has been developed over the past year to allow for future use with numerous grants being received to enable this to happen. The Bishop of Leeds will be consecrating the ground on 24th September the actual 150 year anniversary of the consecration of the church and a supper will be held on the preceding evening in Eldroth.

St James' Church Bellringers

Ken Pearce added to the information imparted by Sue, detailing that there are now up to 12 ringers with a new member from 2020 now becoming the Ringing Master. Over the past year that have been 2 full Peals rung (3hr duration). Ken also advised the the ringers are now funding the maintenance of the bells and would be supporting St James' Fete in July.

Friends of Clapham Station

George Greenbank delivered the report on behalf of the group (Appendix 6)

The Ingleborough Estate

Hannah Renwick Spoke on behalf of the Ingleborough Estate. All estate owned properties are currently let with the currently vacant retail space now being leased to Howard James gardens. During the past year the Estate re-roofed both Fountains House and the Community Shop and are hoping to do the same for the Yorkshire Dales Millenium Trust this year. Hannah appologised for the inconvenience of the recent tree felling work and advised that a road sweeper would be coming to clean Cross Haw Lane on Tuesday.

Hannah also advised that the Farrer Family Trust had donated over £5,000 to local events and causes last year and are looking to potentially increase the support given to the Clapham Park Association in the coming year.

Cave Rescue Organisation

Martin Holroyd spoke on behalf of the group (Appendix 7)

Village Hall

Judith Dawson spoke on behalf of the group. Judith reported that it had been a very positive 12 months for the Village Hall. There were now 20 Trustees in post and the Hall has many regular Group Bookings including the Brownies & Guides, Age UK, The Art Group, DEW Drop-In, Tai Chi, Craft Group, Lecture Group, Sustainability Group, The Parish Council and is also regularly used by the Yorkshire Dales Millenium Trust and St James' Church to host Coffee Mornings. As well as the regular groups there had been many social events that had utilised the Hall's facilities and had been very well attended. Whilst these were not necessarily large fund raisers for the Hall the did help build links within the local community.

The Trustees had also undertaken a review of numerous policies over the past year; Health & Safety, Data Protection & Safeguarding among them. These policies can now be found in the kitchen draw marked "Important Documents".

Planned expenditure in the future includes repairs to the roof and also a replacement to the flooring in the Supper Room.

Age UK Clapham Group

Brenda Pearce spoke on behalf of the group. (Appendix 8)

Clapham and District Newsletter

Chris Hart spoke on behalf of the Newsletter. He stressed how the Newsletter had been running since 1999 and remained funded from advertising, sponsorship and fund raising activities undertaken by the team. It also relies on volunteers for both the production and distribution. Chris also took the meeting through the time-line of production for the upcoming issue, showing just how condensed everything is if it is to meet its publication and distribution dates.

Clapham Association

Diane Elphinstone spoke on behalf of the group. (Appendix 9)

The following organisations were unable to send a representative to the meeting but reports had been filed that were read to the meeting by the Parish Clerk

Clapham Park Association – *Nell Whitley (Appendix 10)*

Clapham Village Store – *Hariet Naden (Appendix 11)*

DEW Drop-In – *Andy Scott (Appendix 12)*

Lecture Group – *Andy Scott (Appendix 13)*

Sustainability Group – *Jill Buckler (Appendix 14)*

6. Parishioner Concerns – None

Reports/ Notes Submitted by Contributors to the Meeting

Appendix 1 - CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Welcome to the Annual Parish Meeting which the Parish Council is required by law to hold some time between 1 st of March and the 1 st of June each year. This meeting will be followed by the regular Parish Council meeting at which all are welcome.

The Parish Council continued to meet monthly (August & November excluded) here in the Village Hall. In addition to me, the Chairman, there are four Parish Councillors and the Council is assisted by a clerk, Steve Culver, who took over from Nigel Harrison in November 2022.

The Council continues to maintain the closed churchyard of St James's, Clapham. Messrs J. Hartley and son, now trading as W.H. Hartley are employed in cutting the grass there and the Parish Council is well satisfied with the work carried out. They will continue to provide the service in the forthcoming year.

The Parish Council has not had a Parish Caretaker in post for a number of years; any work that would ordinarily be assigned to a caretaker are currently considered for allocation to independent contractors with only a limited volume of work required in 2022/23.

At each of its meetings, the Council receives updates in relation to local initiatives in which it has an interest including the community defibrillator and emergency plan and the neighbourhood planning initiative. Since the last Annual Parish Meeting an additional defibrillator has been installed in the parish, at the Old Saw Mill in Clapham, with funding being provided by the Farrer Family Trust, for which the Council is most grateful. The Neighbourhood Planning initiative has recently had its consultation sessions throughout the Parish and is now incorporating the points raised during those meetings.

The Parish Council recognised the Platinum Jubilee of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II with the development of the "Platinum Toll Bar Wood". This was enabled through generous grant support from the Yorkshire Dales Millenium Trust as well as contributions from The Forest of Bowland and Newby Landowners. We also celebrated with a Tea Party on the Jubilee weekend; this having proved so successful we also held a picnic to celebrate the recent Coronation of His Majesty King Charles III with a grant received from the Clapham Community Village Shop enabling the Council to provide drinks for all at the event.

Regular reports from the police are received at Council meetings. For some time now these have been in writing rather than in person. The Council is also kept informed of relevant police information via the North Yorkshire Community Messaging Service. Substantial public concern over increased crime levels in the area was raised at the April 2019 Parish Council meeting. Since then a Mobile Rural Watch Scheme has been brought into operation with parishioners, including one Parish Councillor, participating. The Council purchased a dash-cam for use by parishioners participating in the scheme.

The Council makes regular requests to North Yorkshire Council for action on highways matters. These can be generated by complaints from members of the public but are often raised by Councillors themselves.

Planning applications to the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority and North Yorkshire Council are received by the Parish Council to enable it to make comments. This issue forms a regular and part of the Council's business.

Representatives from the Parish Council attend meeting of many local bodies. These include Clapham Village Hall Committee, the Forest of Bowland Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, the Yorkshire Local Councils Association, the Clapham Development Association and the Yorkshire Dales National Park Management Forum.

The Council's finances are healthy. Auditing showing that the accounts have been adequately maintained and are accurate. The accounts and audit report, along with minutes and agendas of all meetings, are published by the Council on the Clapham North Yorkshire website and can also be obtained from the Parish Clerk or at Council meetings.

Thank you for your attendance at this meeting. The regular Parish Council meeting will take place immediately after this session and anyone who wishes to stay for that meeting is most welcome to do so.

Appendix 2 County & District Council Report – David Ireton

The new North Yorkshire Council launched on April 1. It represents the biggest shake-up in local government in the county since 1974. The new authority will bring together the current eight councils which provide services to the public to form one single organisation covering the whole of England's largest county. You will still be able to access all the support, advice and services you do currently but from just one council instead of eight.

Access to support and services will be easier, via one telephone number, one website, one customer service team and one set of face-to-face customer access points spread across the whole county.

There will be a main office in each former district area, supported by around 30 additional customer access points located in public locations.

Having one council will end confusion over which council does what and which councillor is responsible for which area. More than 80 per cent of our staff live in North Yorkshire and take pride in delivering good quality services for their families, friends and the communities they serve.

The new council was launched on April 1 when North Yorkshire County Council and the existing seven district and borough authorities merged to pave the way for a long-awaited devolution deal. Devolution is a key policy of the Government, handing over decision-making powers to local political leaders and providing millions of pounds in funding to shape major policies and projects on a regional level.

There is a proposed 30-year devolution deal for York and North Yorkshire, with an investment fund of £540 million which was unveiled on August 1 last year and is due to lead to benefits ranging from new and better-paid jobs and improved skills and training to more affordable housing.

Replacing eight councils with one authority gives us all the best possible chance of protecting the services which residents value at a time of exceptional financial pressures on public services. It is estimated that there will be a shortfall of more than £30 million in the new council's revenue budget for the next financial year, all of which will have to be covered by the one-off use of reserves after some additional savings have also been introduced.

However, North Yorkshire Council will be large enough to maximise the benefits of delivering services at scale across a rural county but is being designed with communities at its heart. Even in its first few years, by joining up services and maximising spending power North Yorkshire Council will save between £30 million and £70 million, which will then become annual savings.

This is money that can be used to help protect some of the most important local services at a critical time when everyone and every organisation is feeling the pressure from increased costs. There will be tough financial decisions ahead, but by making this change now, we are in a much stronger position to manage the rising costs and increased demand for services.

We are also in a stronger position to work with partners like the health sector, police, fire, and the community and voluntary sector to get the most from every pound of taxpayers' money in North Yorkshire.

North Yorkshire Council will have overall spending power of about £1.4 billion, including £343 million on schools.

North Yorkshire Council is dedicated to community awards which covers the whole of the County recognise and honour those volunteers who selflessly dedicate their time to improving lives of others. These awards acknowledge the efforts of both organisations and individual volunteers the categories are; 1 best community Group; 2 volunteer of the year; 3 to shine a light on the inspirational work that is happening to tackle climate change on a local level.

Appendix 3 Yorkshire Dales National Park – Rob Ashford.

Public Rights of way Maintenance and Ranger Service

- 93% of the crossings (gates stiles etc..) in the Ribblesdale area of the National Park are in good condition
- The Access Ranger for Ribblesdale repaired the old metal kissing gates from the Clapham car park towards Austwick.
- Our volunteer walling team have repaired some of the gaps above the tunnels
- The YDNPA had two Seasonal Rangers in the Southern Area (Craven) of the National Park this past year. They spent some time in the busier months at Clapham Car Park advising visitors and monitoring the car park– the Seasonal Rangers posts will be in place once again this year.

Clapham Car Park

Signage

The signage in Clapham car park will be replaced in the coming months, the new signs include: -

- New Threshold sign
- New Car park machines signs
- New information panel on the toilet block

In addition to the new signs the Ranger service will be surveying the car park and looking at options to possibly increase the capacity of the car park. We have seen an upward trend in the use of the car park and we take on board the comments from Clapham Parish Council / Parishioners in regards to unused space in the car park.

Any upgrades to the car park, which is subject to funding, will commence in the 2024-25 financial year.

Appendix 4 Police Report

Annual report can be found - Crime and policing in England which allows you to search re incident recorded in your area www.police.uk

18.05.23 - Annual Report – Clapham Cum Newby – 01.04.22 & 15.05.23 – 122 reported incidents

28 - General police admin – Firearms request, public patrols, other police force request, found property, Absconder, Duplicate incidents, Civil dispute, Safeguarding – other agencies & partnership requests

3 - Auto Crime & Stolen motor vehicles, stolen from vehicle

2 - Criminal drugs – cannabis warning/intel

3 - Crime Fraud – bank, phone/online

6 - Theft from person/buildings

4 - Crime Violence/domestic incidents

14 - Highways disruption – Broken down vehicle, temp lights, Animal & wildlife – loose on roads

6 - Abandon calls, hoax

7 - Concern for safety/welfare – checks carried out by police, ambulance, family & friends, Missing persons

22 - Suspect circumstances, vehicles, person's - door to door,

23 - Road Related offence – manner all over road, Section 59, medical, suspect drink & drug driving, speed, mobile phones, seat belts

8 - Road Traffic collisions

Appendix 5 St James' Church Clapham – Sue Mann

Writing a report on the Church year is an interesting exercise and one of challenges and opportunities.

Beginning with the challenges, they will be much the same as you will have heard before. We are realistic in identifying that numbers continue to be a concern. However, they are stable and we have been boosted by some new members who are making a valuable and valued contribution. We know that the demographics are not on our side – we are all older and attracting young people other than for special services is not easy, especially now that there is no school in Clapham. Nevertheless, it has been encouraging to have the Austwick school Christingle Service in Clapham and to welcome families to both the annual Carol and Crib Services.

Our building doesn't get any smaller and we know that, as we approach our Quinquennial Review, we are likely to be facing challenges which may well result in some 'hefty' fundraising. However, that hasn't happened yet, and we are always encouraged by the appreciative comments recorded in our visitors' book. Here's just a sample of the sort of statements which make it worth it :

- A beautiful, quiet place for peaceful reflection and contemplation.
- Thank you for keeping this noble pile open and intact!
- Beautiful church in a beautiful setting. Thank you.
- I love it.

The format of our services has also identified new opportunities. We now have Easy Church once a month – a service where no previous church experience is necessary. It's a short uncomplicated half an hour which is accessible to all and it has been encouraging to welcome new people to this service. This, along with the quarterly 'Church in the Pub', hopefully, helps people to see that there is a church format which is comfortable for them.

We have also carried on with an active programme of outreach which has included a variety of social events:

- Working with Keasden Church to hold a "Parish Fete" in July. Although not on the scale of the Street Fair this was an extremely successful event which will be repeated in 2023.
- The programme of winter Coffee mornings, which provide an opportunity for social contact over the colder months.
- Various events run in conjunction with Clapham Village Hall and Yorkshire Rural Arts. These have included drama (The Killer Question'), Panto (Cinderella) and Opera (Opera for the People with Nicola Mills).
- We also have a new partnership with The Three Peaks Players who performed their 'Last Tango in Little Clapham' in conjunction with Saint James' Church.

Finally, an aspect of church life which everyone in Clapham must be aware of is the success of our bellringing team who provide a great welcome on Sundays. They have had an exciting year, not only ringing for regular services but also for some Royal occasions. These included taking part in the national coordinated ringing for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and, sadly, ringing the bells half muffled for her funeral. They have also been active in developing and improving the Band. Apart from the regular weekly practice sessions two of the Ringers provide tuition for bell handling and moving on in ringing. There have been 4 learners over the last year: 2 have moved on to ringing and the other two are moving in that direction.

Overall, we would say that, as a church, we punch above our weight and are doing it with a smile!

Appendix 6 Friends of Clapham Station – George Greenbank

Friends of Clapham Station works with the Lancaster and Skipton Rail User Group (LASRUG) and the Morecambe and Leeds Community Rail Partnership in representing present and potential rail users and developing and enhancing the stations on the Leeds to Morecambe Line. We do this by maintaining the floral displays on the railway station, monitoring the Defibrillator and seeking to improve facilities at the station through the Community Rail Partnership. Since our last presentation to the Annual Parish Meeting in 2019 there have been significant developments at the Station. The Station has become a Bowland AONB Gateway Station. Information screens, CCTV and loudspeakers have been installed by Northern. LASRU have installed display boards and leaflet hoppers showing local information. LASRUG ran an art project in which children from Clapham School designed rail safety posters which are now displayed on the station. Also, in conjunction with the Parish Council a Defibrillator has been installed in the station car park. In addition to the usual facilities an Amazon Hub is available in the car park.

There are now eight trains in each direction Monday to Saturday and five on Sundays, which is the best schedule for many years. The rolling stock has been improved by the replacement of Pacer Units with more modern Class 158 Units. There will be no significant change to the train service in the new timetable this May, except for a minute or two here and there. The Bentham Line and Northern have recovered well post Covid, despite the recent strikes.

LASRUG are developing 'Destination Wellbeing' and 'The Ingleborough Triangle' projects both of which feature Clapham Village, the Nature Trail, Ingleborough Cave and Ingleborough itself. There are eco-friendly travel, natural landscape and family themes to both these projects. LASRUG will be issuing more information shortly.

We update the floral displays in the tubs on the platform aiming to provide colour all year round. They have been specially decorated for the Platinum Jubilee and the Coronation. We are currently seeking to have seating installed on the Morecambe platform, repairs to the hoppers, repainting of the overbridge and improved Accessibility access to the Morecambe platform.

Appendix 7 Cave Rescue Organisation – Martin Holroyd

2022 was the first year Post covid and proved to be another busy year. The team responded to 96 incidents along with 8 alerts. A breakdown of the incidents includes:

- 8 Underground incidents
- 69 Surface incidents
- 9 Animal incidents (6 sheep/lambs, 2 dogs and 1 cow)
- 10 'local incidents'
-

A simple overview of the incidents show that 47 incidents were attended at weekends and 49 incidents midweek, Thursday has almost as many call outs as a Sunday.

This required over 2800 volunteer hours to resolve these incidents and does not account for the many volunteer hours behind the scenes to ensure that the team is able to provide such a response. This brings its own challenges to the team in providing a response when members must balance work and family commitments.

The team needs to be competent and well trained in a variety of skills and equipment and residents will be familiar with the regular Wednesday evening attendance at the depot.

The team remains non-judgmental in the recording of incidents and will provide advice and education as necessary. The team wants people to enjoy the dales in safety and supports the on line 'adventure smart' advice. In addition to help spread the safety messages to more communities the team in partnership with Upper Wharfedale Fell Rescue and Mosaic outdoors has produced a few 2-minute safety videos in different languages.

In managing incidents, the team continues to make improvements. Smartphones now enable pin point accuracy in locating a party and with the use of the Honda Pioneer (CRO 4) the team can often reach the casualty very quickly.

This requires the goodwill of the local landowners who continue to support the team allowing access in emergency situations.

Finally, the team would like to extend a special thank you to you, the residents for your continued support and patience particular during those unsociable hours when the team has responded to an incident. You are all very welcome to visit and tour the depot at the monthly Saturday equipment maintenance mornings when the kettle will be on, or at the open day on 22 July.

Appendix 8 AGE UK – Brenda Pearce

We meet on the first Wednesday morning of every month in the Village Hall at 10.30. We have either a speaker or an activity, followed by lunch cooked in the kitchen by the marvellous Lorraine Wildman. The Thursday of the following week we have the use of the AgeUK minibus, plus a driver, to go for a day out at a destination of our choosing. We discuss at the meeting where we would like to go and our kind regular driver provides a door to door service on the day. The meetings are an enjoyable community event, providing companionship and fun, and the trips are especially useful for those who live alone with no transport. The facility is very much appreciated.

Appendix 9 Clapham Association – Diane Elphinstone

Village Projects:-

Map Boards:

There are three around the village, on the wall next to Lake House, the corner of the bridge and Riverside and on the side of the village hall. There is a QR code on the boards, and this provides further information about the village and attractions. The blue information leaflets that were produced in 2010 have been superseded by the map boards so that the information contained is relevant and up to date.

Information Directory:-

This project is intended for new residents by helping provide information about immediate essential services such as GP, vet, churches, community groups, schools, banking facilities.

We plan to launch this at a meet and greet in the Village Hall in the near future.

Litter:-

In the past, Ken Pearce has been organising the regular litter picking events, and now this has been taken over by Maria Farrer.

Website:-

The Clapham Village website is well maintained and monitored by Edward Sexton at Glencroft. All the Clapham Newsletter back copies and Parish Council minutes can be found on the website. There is a calendar where anyone can have their events added. Anyone interested can be shown how to add their events.

The Map Board QR code is linked to this website, and the Information Directory will also be on the website, and in a printable format.

Appendix 10 Clapham Park Association – Nell Whitley

Clapham Park Association Committee

We'd like to thank Tracey Bilton for all her work over the years, she has now stepped down as Chair. The committee is now; Secretary: Eleanor (Nell) Whitley (The Beeches), Treasurer: Amanda North (Saw Mill Cottage) and Chair: Amy North-Johnson (Sunnybank). Contact details remain as: claphamparkassociation@outlook.com or the committee welcomes people popping round to discuss any park matters.

2022/23 Activity Overview:

- Numerous equipment repairs by Playdale
- Benches painted • Shelters painted
- Replaced football nets
- Held Jubilee village party fundraiser
- Held duck race at parish fete in July
- Held the annual house to house table-top sale in August

Recent work in April/May 2023:

- New bark laid
- New football nets
- New sandpit sand
- Bins moved. This has been to stop dog walkers using the bins for dog waste. This was an ongoing and horrible issue for the committee & others to deal with.
- Benches and fence repaired
- Fundraising posters created

Updates coming:

- Fixing of broken ropes on play equipment. Note this is an expensive repair and the committee are looking for the best possible deal (currently £1100 quoted by Playdale).
- Bench & shelters painting
- Wasp maintenance / deterrents
- Ongoing mowing and strimming
- Replacement of football nets & painting of goalposts.

Fundraising & Accounts

- The committee has recently written to Ingleborough Hall / Bradford Council to ask for a contribution to the park funds. Groups to the hall use the park a lot and we feel it would be appropriate for them to make an annual contribution. They have previously been asked and declined (due to Covid funding issues). We hope this is now resolved and they will be able to contribute if even modestly.
- The Park's cash available is around £5000 which is enough to maintain the annual upkeep needs but ongoing fundraising is of course needed.
- The committee will review its fundraising aims at its next committee meeting and take input from parents in the village.

Fundraising Activities Planned:

- 3 Peaks walk & Community BBQ
 - Parish Fete attendance & duck race (as per the organisers plans allow)
 - Local business engagement
 - Ingleborough Estate - in discussion on extending support (from £100 annual contribution).
- Further activities will be reviewed as part of the fundraising aims & updated in due course.

We welcome input and support from the Parish Council to keep the park a great place for Clapham families and visitors to the village.

Appendix 11 Clapham Community Shop – Harriet Naden

Inflation has meant that 2022/23 has been quite challenging for the shop. Like many businesses we have had to work hard to manage the effect of higher costs and wherever possible we have tried to absorb these and keep our pricing at reasonable levels. We are always on the look-out for new local suppliers with interesting lines to stock alongside our staple products with recent additions including ground coffee (from Austwick), artisan bread mixes and a wider range of fresh meat. We want to continue to make shopping local the best choice for those in our community.

We are very lucky to have an excellent group of committed staff and volunteers, ably led by our shop manager Helen. Currently we have 42 active volunteers (including 9 members of the Management Committee). Five of our volunteers have joined in the last year including two young people. One of these as part of his Duke of Edinburgh's award and the other on work experience. We are always on the lookout for potential new volunteers whether for front of house roles or otherwise. And that includes volunteers willing to serve on the Management Committee. So please let us know if you would like to get involved.

We have made a number of improvements to the shop in recent months. These include the installation of solar panels (carried out at the same time as the Estate replaced the roof), the fitting of secondary double glazing on many of the windows and the installation of a stable door for the kitchen to improve ventilation in summer months. We have also been undertaking various minor works and repairs to equipment and facilities.

As reported last year, The shop's Community Fund was opened up and awards have been made this year in response to requests from the following:

- Clapham Age UK Group – towards the cost of speakers
- Clapham Sustainability Group – various costs for the June '22 Give and Take day
- St James' Church – contribution towards a new noticeboard
- Clapham Park Association – contribution towards equipment
- Bethel Chapel – contribution towards food bank
- St Matthew's Keasden – contribution to costs of work to improve access
- Clapham Newsletter – publication software
- Parish Council – contribution towards costs of the Coronation picnic

In addition we continue to support local causes with raffle prizes and to provide a collection point in the shop for the food bank.

Appendix 12 Digital Electronics Workshop (DEW) Drop-In - Andy Scott

The group provides an opportunity for those in the community who have issues with, or wish to learn more about, all-things-IT. It allows them to either get help or build knowledge by offering a mix of regular meetings/surgeries and home visits/one-to-one sessions as appropriate. The regular meetings are held in the Village Hall (usually) on the first Wednesday of each month and are hosted by a small group of “helpers”. These sessions combine a mix of show-and-tell teaching or demonstrations (often on topics chosen by the attendees themselves) and the ability to bring along problem equipment for assistance or guidance. This is supported by an email address where people can ask questions or get more urgent help, usually resulting in a mutually agreed home visit.

The group has been running for coming up to 18 months and, at the end of the first year, took the opportunity to review the way it operated and determine if there was an ongoing need: the feedback was very positive, and it was decided to continue in the same format. It was always intended as a Drop-In group so there is no concept of membership and attendees come and go as needs arise. There has, nevertheless, developed a “hard core” of around a dozen who attend most of the regular meetings and this, in itself, suggests that it is answering a perceived need.

From my perspective, I’d like to thank all the other helpers who come along from time to time to help keep the group going and who offer a wider variety of expertise and a different slant on some of the problems that attendees bring along.

Appendix 13 Clapham Lecture Group – Andy Scott

The Lecture Group is a long-established organisation within the community, but which attracts members from further afield as well. It offers a program of lectures, on a wide variety of topics, each autumn from September through to December. Like many groups, its activities had to be curtailed during COVID but I'm pleased to report that numbers are now back up, and have even exceeded, where we were before. Prior to the pandemic, and the Village School's closure, it met in the school but, it has now relocated to the Village Hall where it is a regular "Tuesday Evening" fixture during the Autumn season. It operates on a subscription basis, where members pay to attend the whole series of lectures, but has recently begun to provide a small number of spaces to those who wish to pay to attend one-off lectures as well.

In most instances, a visiting speaker joins the group to present their topic but during the 2022 season we trialled – successfully – with a couple of the lectures delivered via Zoom. This should allow us to offer a broader program for the future since the speaker no longer needs to come "on site" to deliver their talk, though lectures delivered "in person" remain the preferred option so will still be the norm.

Over the past couple of seasons, we have presented a mix of both local and not so local lectures covering things like space and astronomy, local and less local history, travel, and lifestyle topics. I'd particularly like to thank those from within the community who have come forwards in recent years to talk about the things that are important to them. The group's purpose is to broaden its members' knowledge and understanding in an interesting, interactive and enjoyable manner and it's my opinion that the more we all understand of each other and what goes on around us, so the better things are for all. That membership of the group remains healthy suggests that other share this same view.

The group held its AGM last week and is now in the process of putting together the lecture program for 2023 which should be starting in September.

Appendix 14 Clapham Sustainability Group – Jill Buckler

North Yorkshire Climate Coalition

The Clapham Sustainability Group (CSG) joined the North Yorkshire Climate Coalition at its formation just over a year ago. The Coalition's intention is to ensure the voice of climate action groups such as ours are being heard by the new North Yorkshire Authority. Ongoing discussions have taken place between the coalition, County Council party leaders and climate leads. The coalition made a full response to the Authorities' Climate Strategy draft. This is being followed up in an attempt to have a say in influencing policy by our continued engagement with the policy makers.

Curlew Surveys

For the second year running Curlew nesting surveys have been carried out by volunteers recruited by CSG and run in conjunction with the RSPB. The number of surveyors and participating farms have increased. One of our members, along with Curlew in Action, will be taking school children from Settle and Malham on a farm field trip to learn about the Curlew. Another day will be spent with the children explaining the problems around survival of the Curlew and helping them to create felt field maps of Curlew locations.

Infra Red Camera

The CSG now have its own infra red camera which was obtained by means of a grant from the Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust. Initially the camera will be offered on loan to members of the CSG after which we will make it available to every household in the parish.

Electric Vehicle Charge Points

For some time the CSG have been looking at how we might provide Electric Vehicle Charging Points for the use of local residents who would be unable to have access to their own point. A scheme called Char.gy which would provide substantial funding for a complete installations scheme to rural areas was looking very hopeful. For the moment it has gone cold. We are keeping in touch and hope it will be revived.

Grant Funding for Insulation

Earlier schemes, such as the Home Upgrade Grant (HUG) providing finance, based on certain criteria, for the insulation of lofts, windows and cavity walls, has come to an end. Some residents were able to access the funding. We await news on new grant funding. We have found it difficult to access, or have news, of funding for solid wall insulation.

Give and Take

With the help of funding from the village shop in June of last year we held the first 'Give and Take' for 4 years. Another is planned for 14th October this year.

Shared Prosperity Fund

As part of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund North Yorkshire Council and the York and North Yorkshire Local Enterprise Partnership (Y&NY LEP) are developing a programme to build capacity of community climate action, and are running a number of workshops to provide support. Two members of our group will be attending one of these workshops. We hope it is fruitful.