

# **EAST COWTON PARISH COUNCIL**

**Councillors are hereby summoned and Members of the Public invited to attend  
the meeting of the Parish Council  
on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> July 2021 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.**

## **AGENDA**

### **1. Apologies for absence**

### **2. Disclosures of personal and prejudicial interests from Councillors on matters to be considered at the meeting.**

*(The disclosure must include the nature of the interest (i.e. pecuniary or other). If you become aware, during the course of a meeting, of an interest that has not been disclosed under this item you must immediately disclose it. You may remain in the meeting and take part fully in discussion and voting unless the interest is prejudicial.*

*A personal interest is prejudicial if a member of the public with knowledge of the relevant facts would reasonably regard it as so significant that it is likely to prejudice your judgement of the public interest and it relates to a financial or regulatory matter)*

### **3. Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 28th June 2021** (circulated to councillors)

*To determine whether the Minutes are an accurate record.*

### **4. Chair's formal announcements on any matters not the subject of discussion or debate**

### **5. Police Report**

*To consider the report received and hear from the Police Community Support Officer if in attendance regarding the impact of coronavirus on village policing and plans going forward*

### **6. Public Participation**

### **7. Planning applications**

*7.1. To consider the observations to be made on behalf of the Council in relation to planning application number 21/01361/OUT (Land to East of Birkby Lane)*

*7.2. To consider further the position in relation to landscaping pursuant to application numbers 17/01123/FUL and 19/01789/FUL (Manor House Farm) following Minute 2104.17*

*7.3. To be advised of the outcome of applications which the Council has previously considered namely: 21/00632/FUL Cowton Moor House, 21/00649 Cornhill Farm; 1/00763 OS field 4600*

*7.4. Housing Need Survey*

### **8. Finance**

*a) To receive and approve statements of account*

*b) To note and authorise cheques*

### **9. Co-option of A Councillor**

*To determine the further steps to be taken to fill the vacancy*

**10. Neglected Communal Oil Tank**

*To consider concerns relating to the above and determine what action (if any) the council can take.*

**11. Secure Email Addresses**

*Pursuant to Minute 2103.16 this matter is listed for further discussion*

**12. Raising the Parish Council's Profile**

*To discuss the offer of a free social media audit and generally*

**13. No Littering Road Signs**

*Councillors previously decided against ordering these (Minute 2104.16) but left the position open for the future and in light of a further approach made are to discuss further*

**14. Ultrafast Broadband**

*To decide whether or not to accept an invitation by Quickline Communications Limited to give a presentation at a future Council meeting.*

**15. Noticeboard**

*To receive an update following minute 2104.09*

**16. Assets, Risk Assessments and Inspection Reports**

*To receive an update concerning risk assessments for all assets following Minute 2104.11*

*To be updated as to need to re-register defibrillator on a new National Database;*

*To consider the perennial task of strimming/pruning around and cleaning of village name signs*

**17. Millennium Wood**

*To receive an update*

**18. Neighbourhood Watch**

*To receive an update following Minute 2104.13*

**19. Resilience Plan**

*To receive an update following Minute 2104.10*

**20. Parish Portal**

*To receive an update pursuant to Minute 2104.15*

**21. Broken Manhole Cover**

*To receive an update following Minute 2105.21*

**22. Date and time of the next meeting including the annual meeting of the Parish Council:**

*13<sup>th</sup> September 2021 at 7.30pm is proposed*

**23. Any other business (urgent or not requiring debate or decision)**

*Primarily to inform the clerk of items for inclusion on the next agenda*

## Supporting Information

### 5 POLICE REPORT



### Hambleton Command: Town and Parish Council Report

Town or Parish :	East Cowton
Report Completed By :	PCSO 6786 Kim Laws
Data Reporting Period :	2 <sup>nd</sup> May to 7 <sup>th</sup> June 2021

#### Crime and ASB Data

Qualifier	No of Incidents	
Anti-Social Behaviour	1	
Auto crime	0	
Burglary :	<i>Commercial : 0</i>	<i>Residential : 0</i>
Criminal Damage	1	
Theft (including from shops)	0	
Violence Against the Person	0	
Other crimes including Drugs	0	
<b>TOTAL THIS PERIOD</b>	<b>2</b>	



### Hambleton Command: Town and Parish Council Report

Town or Parish :	East Cowton
Report Completed By :	PCSO 6786 Kim Laws
Data Reporting Period :	7 <sup>th</sup> June to 5 <sup>th</sup> July 2021

#### Crime and ASB Data

Qualifier	No of Incidents	
Anti-Social Behaviour	1	
Auto crime	0	
Burglary :	<i>Commercial : 0</i>	<i>Residential : 0</i>
Criminal Damage	1	
Theft (including from shops)	0	

Violence Against the Person	1	
Other crimes including Drugs	0	
<b>TOTAL THIS PERIOD</b>	<b>3</b>	

## North Yorkshire Police Updates

### North Yorkshire Community Messaging has moved

Communications have been sent to all those currently signed up to receive our Community Messaging alerts to let you know that we are moving to a new platform. This will mean you will need to sign up again to continue receiving alerts and can do so at our website here: [Community Messaging – North Yorkshire Police | North Yorkshire Police](#) or by visiting the North Yorkshire Community Messaging website at: [www.northyorkshirecommunitymessaging.co.uk](http://www.northyorkshirecommunitymessaging.co.uk)

### Motorcyclist dies in three-vehicle collision

A motorcyclist in his 50s has died following a collision near Northallerton (Sunday, 13 June 2021).

It happened on the A167 between Northallerton and Darlington at around 12.30pm.

The motorcyclist, who was riding a Kawasaki, was travelling north when he collided with two vehicles – a MAN horsebox wagon and a Jaguar I-PACE which were heading in the opposite direction.

The incident happened not far from the Brompton Lane junction.

Sadly, the rider suffered very serious injuries and died at the scene.

Police are investigating the circumstances surrounding the collision and are appealing for any witnesses to come forward.

Officers would also like to hear from anyone with dashcam footage of the incident, or any of the vehicles in the moments leading up to it.

Please contact North Yorkshire Police on 101, select option 2 and ask for Adam Elliott. You can also email [adam.elliott@northyorkshire.police.uk](mailto:adam.elliott@northyorkshire.police.uk)

Please quote 12210138484 when sharing information.

Police are highlighting the devastating impact of dog attacks on livestock as they urge owners to take responsibility for their pets.

As more people are visiting the countryside to walk their dogs, North Yorkshire Police have been supplying stocks of warning posters to farmers to put up on gates and near livestock fields.

Officers from rural Neighbourhood Policing Teams, and the force's Rural Task Force, have also been talking to dog walkers in areas where livestock worrying has occurred, to ensure everyone understands the importance of keeping dogs on leads and under control. Where appropriate, dog walkers are shown photographs which demonstrate the terrible injuries a dog can inflict on a sheep.

## **6 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Members of the public have expressed concern about the planning application on which the Parish Council (PC) has been invited to provide observations. Written comments received by the Parish Council include:

The infrastructure of the village is far from being able to cope with the development of housing estates. The proposed site is located at the lowest point of East Cowton where the management of water and sewage, although acknowledged as problematic over the years, has not yet been addressed. Contrary to the claims of the application, surface water is present in this field throughout the winter months because the culvert on Birkby Lane, is unable to cope with the volume and flow of rainwater and snow melt. Drains that serve the existing housing stock struggle to perform satisfactorily, blocking and causing unpleasant overflow. Proposed solutions to these issues, involve the use of a private management company, leading to associated service charges that are not appropriate for low cost housing and off-putting for prospective buyers.

The village bus service is not frequent enough for the planners to claim that residents of these homes will not be using their cars in order to get to work and school. Residents of East Cowton are hugely dependent on private motorised transport because of the lack of any alternatives. The volume of traffic associated with this development will have an impact on the roads in and out of the village, particularly given the proximity of Robinsons Tractors, an established local employer, whose gates are opposite the proposed development and whose agricultural vehicles are heavy users of this section of Birkby Lane.

The document states that the proposed development will be invisible within the village and therefore will not affect the overall visual impression of East Cowton. To the contrary, it will be the first thing you see as you approach the village down the hill towards the junction of Birkby Lane with the main street. It will certainly not be invisible to those residents whose properties adjoin the field. My house will lose both light and privacy according the proposed plan as will those of my neighbours whose homes are also adjacent to the field. No regard whatsoever has been given to the residents of the thirteen dwellings that back onto the field, particularly the resident who lives at the end of the Birkby Terrace and whose cottage would be demolished to allow an access road to be created.

The overall infrastructure of East Cowton should be tackled first before any development of this nature can be contemplated. With the ongoing debate surrounding the proposed development on the opposite side of Birkby Lane, the village risks being completely overwhelmed by inappropriate housing developments. Doing things in the wrong order will result in the worst possible outcome for the village and its current population. Water, drainage, transport and road access (the Great

Smeaton Road is in desperate need of attention in one direction and the low railway bridge on the bend on Birkby Lane, is both dangerous and limiting) need to be addressed as a priority.

The planning report for vineyard development says the land has no water or flooding issues, ermm sorry it does, the water stands down the bottom Birkby road end, and stands for some time during our normal global warming wet days, it then soaks to the bottom far corner and flood pools in David Dennis's field corner making its way down onto road and main drain culvert on Birkby road. The main drain sewerage culvert on Birkby road is to be main culvert for development and in heavy rain storms this culvert has flooded Bungalow farm property and neighbours. Just don't know how this field and drainage is going to cope with development soak aways and general property drainage that will flood down to Birkby road, this on top of the normal flooding in the village.

I have copied under an exchange of E Mail between Hambleton District Council and Yorkshire Water (YW) . This related to the construction of only one dwelling. You will note that Peter Jones acknowledges that there has been and continues to be foul and surface management issues in the village. In response YW states that there are no known hydraulic problems or issues with the pumping stations but ignores the fact that the system is working above recommended capacity!

I understand that recent legislation has put the onus on YW to ensure that resource is there to cope with developments; we can only hope that it is adequate.

From: Peter Jones Sent: 28 June 2018 14:08 To: Stephanie Walden Cc: Helen Laws

Subject: 18/00414/FUL East Cowton Consultation.

Good afternoon Stephanie Trust that this finds you well.

We have an application for a single dwelling house at East Cowton and consulted YW on the matter. We have not had a response on the application as yet.

The item has been before Members today and they are concerned about the foul water situation in the village. We are aware that there has been and continues to be a foul and surface water management issue in the village and Members are keen to understand whether or not Yorkshire Water would accept the development of a single dwelling, in the light of the known problems in the locality.

Many thanks

Peter Jones Development Manager (North)

From: Stephanie Walden Sent: 02 July 2018 08:01 To: Peter Jones Subject: RE: 18/00414/FUL - East Cowton Consultation.

Peter a colleague in our sewerage team has informed me that there was a blockage due to mortar being found in the sewer (presumably from building work somewhere in the area) along Southview and in May this year tree roots were found to have caused sewer damage on the system. There are no known hydraulic problems with the system and there are no issues with the sewage pumping stations in the area.

There may be land drainage issues in the locality but you would need to speak to your own drainage engineers in that respect. Given the application is for only one house and we understand that only foul water will enter the public sewer, YW has no objection to the application.

Kind regards.

Stephanie Stephanie Walden Land Use Planning Manager Yorkshire Water

I would also be concerned about the visibility splays, especially towards BRM. The 30mph limit is just outside the splay and on bend, just how many vehicles will it take to overrun this speed before an accident, the splay should be much longer to account for speeds greater than 30 mph.

## 7. PLANNING

7.1 Councillors should refer to Hambleton District Council's Planning Website for full details of the application referred to on the agenda. They may also wish to refresh their minds regarding the current position concerning both the existing and draft Local Plans.

7.2 The Planning Enforcement Officer has confirmed that the landscaping works do not meet the planning conditions but that no enforcement action will be taken

7.3 Councillors should refer to Hambleton District Council's Planning Website for full details of the applications referred to on the agenda

8.4 Hambleton District Council (HDC) is seeking the PC's involvement in a housing questionnaire in relation to the proposed development at Bungalow Farm

*Approach by a partner RP who is looking at the Bungalow Farm site for development of residential development including affordable. To ensure that the mix is what the parish need could we look at undertaking a housing need survey to point us in the right direction.*

*It would be at no cost to the parish other than a covering letter to accompany the housing need survey (a sample survey has been circulated), would you consider including South Cowton, Pepper Arden and Birkby into the survey as these are small settlements that will not get any housing.*

*The PC was previously involved in a village survey in 2019 when questions were raised concerning housing as follows and the PC was told that this was to try to avoid the need for a separate survey in relation to foreseeable development in the village*

- In the future, if affordable housing was considered a possible option in East Cowton, what would be your opinion?*
- Do you support the development of housing generally within the Parish?*
- It is also recognised that there is little opportunity for older residents wishing to remain within the Parish to downsize to more suitable accommodation*
- Do you support development of housing for the elderly within the Parish?*
- Does anyone in your household require housing (open market or affordable) and either currently live in East Cowton or would like to return to the area?*

## 8 FINANCE

### 8a

		Community Account	Premium Account
		£ 6,868.13	£ 2,988.18
<u>add</u>			
<b>Income</b>			
Interest on Premium Account			£ 0.07
Parish Precept - Instalment 1	£ 3,352.00		
Parish Precept - Instalment 2	£ -		
VAT reclaim	£ -	£ 3,352.00	
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		£ 10,220.13	£ 2,988.25
<u>less</u>			
<b>Transferred to Premium Account</b>			
<b>Transferred to Community Account</b>			
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		£ 10,220.13	£ 2,988.25
<u>less</u>			
<b>Actual Expenditure</b>			
1. Gross Wages	£ 463.36		
2. Contractors	£ 938.40		
3. Services	£ -		
4. Sundries			
5. Insurance	£ 257.60		
6. Repairs/Maintenance	£ 62.32		
7. Rental	£ -		
8. Subscriptions/Training	£ 218.00		
9. Asset Purchases			
		<hr/>	
		£ 1,939.68	
		<hr/>	
		£ 8,280.45	

### Bank Reconciliation at 20 July 2021

Current Account balance as statement	£ 8,641.09
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#### add

Payments not yet cleared:	£ -	£ -
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#### deduct

Cheques not yet presented for payment	£ 360.64	£ 360.64
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<b>Reconciled balance - Current Account</b>	£ 8,280.45
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<b><u>add -Premium Account balance</u></b>	£ 2,988.25
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	<hr/>	<hr/>
	£ 11,268.70	



## 8b List of Cheques to be Noted/Authorised

Invoice Date	Description	£	Authority
2.7.21	CE & CM Walker Ltd - Grasscutting May	£ 244.80	Highways Act 1980, s96 and Open Spaces Act 1906, s10(b)
July	J.Kilsby- Clerk's Wages	£ 115.84	Local Government Act 1972, s112(2)

NB cheques already despatched with Clerk/RFO using authority from Minute 2104.06 to write cheques for signature by 2 councillors

## 9 CO-OPTION

No expressions of interest have been received in response to notices posted. If any are received prior to the meeting, councillors will be alerted.

## 10. Communal Oil Tank

A resident has raised the following:

I am contacting you to seek advice on the concerns over the redundant Oil storage tank that is sited to the rear of our property in Conyers Road. It was used to supply all the estate with their heating oil when the estate was built, but as the years have passed, everyone to my knowledge has their own supply tanks installed. We have a header tank sited up a narrow alley to the rear of the property, with an inspection chamber containing cut-off valves on the track on the outer perimeter of our fence. My concern is ,that in recent years no inspection of the system has been carried out and I am not aware of the system being decommissioned. so any likelihood of leakage or deterioration of the system will have not been recognized. I have contacted Shell who had responsibility for the system initially, but after six weeks of waiting they informed me that they transferred responsibility to Dewco, who I understand were dissolved in 2006. I have been in touch with the Environmental Agency, who say unless there is leakage affecting groundwater they have no powers to help. Considering the tank had a capacity of 300000 litres and pipes running through the estate, I would think it in everyone's interest that we are reassured that all is safe. Could you possibly look into this matter and suggest a possible solution.

## 11. Secure E mail Addresses

Minute 2103.16 It was resolved that this matter be considered by the PC further at its June meeting which was ultimately reserved for annual financial matters as a result of the restrictions in operation. Information circulated for the March meeting was as follows, but no proposals or costings have been received in the interim:

With both GDPR and the need for public records, Parish Councillors and the clerk are discouraged from using personal email accounts for council business so as to mix council business with their own. Councillors will note, however, that the Clerk seeks to avoid circulating by e-mail anything that is data sensitive; that her Clerk's current e-mail account is used exclusively for the purpose of Parish Council business; that the Chairman holds the log on details in the event that access by a third party is necessary. Some emails are also saved as pdf files on the Parish Council's laptop.

There are two main types of accounts: namely **hosted email accounts** where the email address uses your domain name eg clerk@ECPC.org.uk. **or free web-based accounts** such as Outlook or Gmail. The Clerk uses her free Yahoo account for Parish Council business

With hosted accounts, messages are stored on the server; you can access your email from any device connected to the internet; the council can request the removal of an account and deletion of messages if a Councillor or clerk leaves the council but may have no control over those which a councillor or clerk has downloaded or copied onto their own device. There is a cost to set up and maintain the accounts including for storage space for the email messages

Free accounts have limited support and may be scanned to serve advertising needs which can have privacy implications. Neither Gmail nor Outlook are supposed to be so scanned.

Councillors have previously queried the availability of gov.uk email addresses for councillors.

Parish Councils are eligible to apply for a domain name and the steps are outlined on the [gov.uk website](http://gov.uk)

Councillors will note the costs of registration and a need to provide a hosted domain which will incur costs as above.

In addition to the Clerk's Yahoo account, the Parish Council also has Gmail and Outlook accounts, neither of which are used. It would potentially be more convenient for the Clerk and more secure to switch to the Outlook account if councillors are not minded to explore the hosting of the Parish Council's own domain.

If councillors wish to explore further the setting up and hosting of the Parish Council's own domain, advice from an expert will presumably be required and both that and the cost implications will need to be considered at a subsequent meeting

## **12. Raising the Parish Council's Profile**

The PC has been advised of the availability of a free social-media audit. The PC has no social media presence at the present time. Councillors are referred to the White Rose Update for details but will note that the Mini Social Media Audit will provide insights into how the PC's social media is performing. and includes benchmarking against other similar-sized councils around the country and profiles its local social media audience. The results will be talked through with the PC in a Zoom call and a PDF report will be provided.

NALC's national partner for communications advice, support and services for parish and town councils, Breakthrough Communications would carry out the audit

One of the items the PC discussed (in 2019) was raising its profile. The free social media assessment may assist with this, especially if it helps promote the PC to the younger generation of the village. It could be linked to the restoration of the millennium wood and upkeep of the village by using it as a means to advertise and get people involved. (Cllr AS)

## **13 NO LITTERING ROAD SIGNS**

HDC has written to the PC as follows and its email with attachments was circulated to councillors:

*Since (emails earlier in the year) we have decided to upgrade the quality of the signs to give them greater longevity and they will now be made of aluminium rather than composite board. The understanding is that these signs are to be located on private land in locations visible to road users entering the village/town, i.e. farmers fields, **not** highway verges. Respective Town/Parish Councils are to liaise accordingly seeking permission from landowners The signs will be standard "Please take your litter home with you" and are directed at passing motorists. We will attach an adhesive label bespoke to your Council to personalise the signs.*

*In addition to these signs we have produced a suite of anti-littering posters which we can supply free of charge. These posters will be suitable for your notice boards or public areas/venues*

A more recent email reads:

*We've now had all the signs and posters produced so if you would like to take us up on this offer for anti-littering signs please complete the attached form this month. I just need to clarify that the main purpose of the signs is to catch the attention of road user's therefore they need to be visible at the main vehicular access routes to the villages/towns. They can't be sited on highway verges and therefore landowners will need to be approached for permissions.*

## **14 ULTRAFAST BROADBAND**

Councillors will recall receipt of an email in the following terms:

An exciting new contract that has been awarded to Quickline Communications Ltd, which supports rural communities to access Ultrafast broadband.

This is in support of the Government's gigabit-capable targets which sets out North Yorkshire County Council's ambition to enhance connectivity throughout North Yorkshire with the aim to deliver Ultrafast broadband direct to your door.

Access to fast, reliable internet connectivity is no longer a luxury; it is a necessity for our residents, local businesses, and public services.

As we continue to spend more time at home to help prevent the spread of Coronavirus plus more flexibility of home working/schooling as we go through the easing of restrictions, there has never been more need for a fast and reliable internet connection.

North Yorkshire County Council is fully committed to exploring all options open to them to enhance the digital infrastructure, even in the most rural areas.

To achieve this, the Council is working with us at Quickline Communications. We specialise in building networks with an impressive record of accomplishment in delivering high-speed connectivity to rural villages and communities.

Quickline Communications has been delivering fast, reliable internet to rural homes and businesses over the past 12 years and we specialise in the 'hard to reach' areas that future, current or previous roll out phases have not yet reached.

Delivering ultrafast-capable broadband brings you the fastest, most reliable broadband with speeds of over 100mbps, providing much-needed improved connectivity for local residents and businesses.

Quickline has launched 'Connected North Yorkshire' which will act as the platform to provide all the information on the rollout and which service providers are available in your area. I would encourage both residents and businesses to register their interest at the following link <https://www.connectedyorkshire.co.uk/northyorkshire>

I would very much welcome the opportunity to attend your next scheduled parish council meeting so that we can provide a brief presentation on the above and answer any questions you may have and discuss how we can work together within your local community.

## **16 ASSETS RISKS etc**

The PC has been advised of a new national database requiring reregistration. The email forwarded to TW indicated that

The existing local database at Yorkshire Ambulance Service, where your defibrillator is currently registered, will no longer be in use after **12<sup>th</sup> July 2021**. It is being replaced by a national database called The Circuit – The National Defibrillator Network supported by the British Heart Foundation, St John Ambulance, Resuscitation Council UK and the Association of Ambulance Chief Executives.

We now need you to register your defibrillator on [The Circuit](#) to ensure that we can continue to direct members of the public to your lifesaving defibrillator in an emergency. It will only take you a few minutes to do this. Due to data protection laws, we cannot do this on your behalf.

## **17 MILLENNIUM WOOD**

A written update has been provided:

### 1 Report of tasks carried out to April 30<sup>th</sup> 2021

1. After the last visit by representative from the Forestry Commission, we had expected a second visit, This will not now take place due to a change of roles within the Forestry Commission.
2. We (myself and Cllr T Wilde) have met with Mr M Cooke from the Swale and Ure IDB with reference to the possibility of placing a fence along the Stell bank. Mr Cooke has given verbal consent to place a fence no higher than 3 feet on the crest of the stell , He is also willing to clean the stell from the other side side. (We are waiting written confirmation)
3. With help from a volunteer we have dug a temporary drain to remove surface water from the wood
4. All dead undergrowth and twigs have been removed and also burned
5. With help from a volunteer we have started to map and number the trees onto a scale plan of the wood
6. We have been given a large amount of tree chipping for use as a possible all weather pathway, this has been moved to the site and placed into six 1 ton bags until needed.

### 2 Tasks in hand

1. The mapping and numbering of the trees has to be completed
2. Pricing for a post and rail fence to be completed, and submitted
3. Nettles and other weeds to be sprayed (NP)

### 3 Inspection Report as April 30<sup>th</sup> 2021

1. The Wood is dry and free from surface dead weeds and twigs, Tree stumps are now visible, they may be a trip hazard
2. Nettles and other weeds have started to grow again

3. Trees provided by the Woodland Trust have overwintered well and are showing signs of new growth
4. Dogs have been seen in the wood, (small dogs are able to get under the gate)

#### 4 Tasks planned for 2021

1. Improve access to the wood
2. Fence the still side.
3. Replace damaged fence post road fence
4. Repair or replace old signage
5. Add a bottom rail to the gate
6. After Mapping the trees, produce a possible plan for future use of the wood
7. Nettles and other weeds need to be cut down and removed.

Peter Stephenson May 2021

#### **15-21 Other Updates**

All other updates will be concise verbal briefings

#### **22. Next Meeting**

The second Monday in September is proposed after the PC decided to reduce the number of its current meetings (Minute 2105.12) to alternate months so far as possible.