



The Monthly Meeting of the Parish Council was held this evening at Westfield Park at 7.35pm.

Present: Cllrs Hinchcliffe (AH) (Chair), Bromley (Vice Chair) (PB), Barras (JB), Bradshaw (CB), Ellis (BE), Green (CG), Hindson (DH) and County Councillor Wendy Pattison (WP) (items 1 to7).

In attendance: Cllr Haughie (JH), Elizabeth Taylor, Clerk (ET) and 1 member of the public.

Abbreviations Used in Minutes:

PC – Parish Council; NP - Neighbourhood Plan; NCC – N’land County Council;
LCVL – Longhoughton Community Ventures Ltd; LTP – Local Transport Plan; NE – N’land Estates
LC&SCT – Longhoughton Community & Sports Centre; LAA – Longhoughton Allotment Association;
NALC – N’land Association of Local Councils; CAN – Community Action N’land; AONB – Area of
Outstanding Natural Beauty; TTRO - Temporary Traffic Regulation Order ; UCR Unclassified Road.

Monthly Parish Meeting		
Minutes		Action
Members of the Public - Questions: There were no questions. Mrs Sue Haughie was in attendance for item 10c).		
1.	Apologies for Absence: Cllr Middlemist (KM) and Flt Lt Ayshea Lewis (AL).	
2.	Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 15 November 2022. Minutes were agreed as a true record.	
3.	Actions from Last Minutes (unless an agenda item) Declaration of Acceptance of Office Form: Form from KM outstanding. Fixed Asset Review: BE confirmed he had carried out his share of the outstanding inspections of grit bins and seats and all were in order. Old Bank Lane/Quarry Entrance and Burnside Signage: AH confirmed he had contacted NCC about all 3 requests and the matter was now with NCC for action. PC/NCC Meeting: AH had still not received a meeting date from John Riddle, Cabinet Member with responsibility for Highways. AH to pursue.	KM AH
4.	Declarations of Interest/Grant of Dispensations and Leave of Absence: Grant request from Percy Pony Club – JH Planning application 21/04715/FUL – CB A report had been previously circulated by AH re the potential of a possibility of a conflict regarding Zoom meetings and attendance. As agreed at the November meeting, advice from NALC had been sought and the suggested resolution was to grant a general leave of absence for all Councillors due to Covid for a period of 12 months commencing May 2021. Proposed by BE, 2 nd by CG and agreed by all.	
5.	County Councillor Wendy Pattison – Northumberland County Council Update WP had circulated a report prior to the meeting. Storm Arwen: WP thanked the PC and LC&SCT for their efforts following Storm Arwen and advised that NCC would be carrying out an enquiry to review how things went. Information on receiving compensation was available on Northern Powergrid’s website. Superfast Broadband in Howick: WP thanked JH for help in delivering this project which was now just about complete. Boulmer Car Park: WP advised it was anticipated a planning application would be submitted by NCC by March and that NCC were in talks with Northumberland Estates about the possibility of NCC taking over management of the existing Boulmer Car Park currently managed by the PC. BE flagged his concern about building more car parks and how this would not solve the problems of parking and that alongside building the car park, NCC needed to protect resident parking with either yellow lines or resident	

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	parking permits. WP advised there would be a section in the new car park for users of the village hall to park for free. BE clarified his concerns were about on-street parking.	
6.	Inspections - Longhoughton Playing Field/Footpath: DH advised all ok. There is a missing dog bin by the Playing Field – DH to investigate and report back to the PC.	DH
7.	<p>Matters Arising</p> <p>a) Chairs Update. A report had previously been circulated by AH in view of there being 2 months between meetings to covers several issues that have arisen: Lacey Street Parking Issues: Letters of complaint about Lacey Street have been received from Emily McDonough, Colin Graham and CG had updated AH on the current issues. AH had responded to the two complaints. The Running Fox has also been liaising with AH to try to resolve the issue. The addition of Running Fox parking together with school traffic now means the street is congested particularly at the top end and on many occasions the gap between parked vehicles on both sides of the road is often insufficient to get an emergency vehicle through which poses a health and safety issue. It was noted the PC had previously asked NCC for help but so far this had not been forthcoming. Discussion took place on solutions such as: removing the grass verges and replacing with grasscrete to increase parking spaces; the possibility of residents parking and yellow lines but there was concern this would just move the parking problem to another location; the possibility of creating parking on the old playing field which would also help with the Beach Road issue; and better signage for the parking spaces available at School Green by the sculpture/Church. WP advised the PC needed to say what they wanted when contacting NCC but AH advised the PC were not experts and the PC needed NCC highways to get involved, review the situation and suggest what could be done to resolve the issues. BE suggested that the land opposite the Running Fox should be taken over and used for overflow parking. PB advised this was privately owned land and so not an option. WP advised the solution would be to relocate the school and the PC should liaise with the Head Teacher to request this. Sue Haughie advised that she had been Clerk at the time when LC&SCT was built and a review of the location of the school had been undertaken then and the conclusion had been that the school couldn't be moved. It was suggested that the school contact parents to ask them to be more considerate during the school run but AH advised the Head Teacher already did this on a regular basis. The parking solutions at Craster and Newton were discussed where car parks had been created on the outskirts of the villages which had resolved parking problems along with the installation of double yellow lines. WP advised Craster had undertaken an independent traffic survey at an approximate cost of £2k. WP suggested parking at Lacey Street should be included as part of the current Longhoughton Traffic Management Review but PB advised this was a specific issue and the review wasn't also able to cover this issue. It was agreed the PC to write to David Laux, Richard McKenzie and Neil Snowdon to ask for their help and expert advice on what the options are to help resolve the issue.</p> <p>Vibration from Blasting at Longhoughton Quarry: AH advised complaints had been received from Martyn Davis and Cheryl McAlpine. Further blasting had taken place on 16.12.21 and the quarry had done a letter drop to notify residents. David Purvis had advised monitoring devices had been put down in Chancel Place and Elworthy and the vibrations recorded were well below the allowable range. Cheryl McAlpine had sent in a further letter on 24.12.21 to raise a number of points related to the blasting on behalf of a number of neighbours. David Purvis has advised the PC that he is using specialist contractors to review the monitoring and the blast design and would monitor again when the next blasting took place in January. AH advised he had contacted NCC for advice particularly on the compliance conditions</p>	<p>AH</p> <p>AH</p>

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	<p>Boulmer. The Club will now have further discussions with Doug Frater taking into account the points raised. They will revert early in 2022 if they wish to go ahead.</p> <p>Christmas Gifts to the Elderly and Vulnerable: 100 Christmas gift bags were distributed to vulnerable and elderly people throughout the Parish prior to Christmas with funding from the PC and LC&SCT. Thanks to Eleanor Phillips for organising/distributing the gifts.</p> <p>Website for Community Organisations: Chris Thomas has started work on creating the website for up to 12 community organisations. This will give one page each for each organisation and will be useful for advertising their purpose and contact details for those involved.</p> <p>b) Precept 2022/23: Documentation from NCC, the current accounts, last years' budget and a draft 2022/23 budget and report by AH had been previously circulated. It was proposed to increase the precept to £21,438 – to take account of an increase of 2.4% of households within the Parish – this would hold the cost per household at £34.80 (at the Band D level) which is the same as the current year. Proposed JB, 2nd BE. All agreed. ET to notify NCC accordingly.</p> <p>c) NCC – Additional 3 Grass Cuts of NCC Public Areas: the PC considered the offer from NCC at a cost of £410 + VAT but decided to continue to decline the offer of additional grass cuts in March and October.</p> <p>d) Alnwick Medical Group: the PC discussed the present situation in Longhoughton in which the medical facilities have been suspended since early 2020 due to Covid. The PC were of the opinion that the impact of Covid will diminish over the coming months and that it was hoped the medical facilities would return to Longhoughton and give people in the village, along with the residents of Boulmer and Howick, access to the services that they have valued for many years. CG commented that it may be more important to improve the facilities available in Alnwick first and flagged the extreme difficulty faced if you needed a face-to-face appointment and that if you called after 8am, appointments were always then full for the day. JH advised that he thought the reason there were medical facilities available in the village was due to RAF Boulmer and that the facility may be paid for by the MOD and it may be best to contact AL and get the support and backing of the RAF when making contact with Alnwick Medical Group. It was agreed the PC to write to Alnwick Medical Group and ask Dr Syers and Tony Brown as senior representatives to an open meeting with the PC to discuss the reinstatement of medical facilities and service in Longhoughton.</p>	<p>ET</p> <p>ET</p> <p>AH/ET</p>
<p>8.</p>	<p>Reports for Discussion</p> <p>a) Parish 4 Year Plan: AH/PB had circulated a further revised/updated draft - noted.</p> <p>b) NP Update: A report had previously been circulated by AH. A consultation on settlement boundaries for Boulmer and Howick went out with the December Newsletter. A further grant request had been submitted to Locality for £1,676 to cover professional fees, printing and room hire costs. A meeting with AECOM took place virtually on 7/1/22 with PB, AH and Jo-Anne Garrick representing the PC. This will result in the design of 5 possible housing sites to include, housing layout, roads, footpaths greenways, open spaces and links to nature corridors. It is hoped that this work will identify the housing sites that are to be taken forward within the Plan.</p> <p>c) Longhoughton Update: A report had been previously circulated by PB.</p> <p>Longhoughton Traffic Management Review: Slow progress is being made on the NCC AONB Design Guide which has impacted on the delivery of the Longhoughton Traffic Management Review. PB is pursuing with NCC and AONB.</p>	<p>PB</p>

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	<p>Howick Bridge: 3 comparable quotes have now been received and, following a conversation with AONB (source of any possible grant), it has been agreed that a “Preferred Supplier” agreement could be made (because works can’t start due to weather, etc until the next financial year). This agreement has made with Ian Wetheritt, a builder based in Longhoughton (who provided the lowest quote). The PC will submit a bid for funding in April 2022 to the Farming and Protected Landscapes Fund run by the AONB. This will include a contingency for increased costs with the final contract with the Builder being dependent on being successful in this bid. AONB advise that a “scheme” that it is more than simply a bridge needs to be developed. Therefore, some modest signage and a possible leaflet as well as some remedial works is an option and these costs will be included in the bid. All this has to be discussed and agreed with the landowners and managers. The costs for the bridge were £12,800 + VAT. Any additional costs above and beyond this will need to be met by the PC and this has been built into the 2022/23 budget.</p> <p>National Lottery Heritage Funding Grant: AONB are making an application for a large grant for land management and access in the AONB to include the green routes discussed at the last and this PC meeting which are central to the vision. The bid will be a long time in the forming and delivery, if successful. An initial Expression of Interest (EOI) has been submitted.</p> <p>Low Steads and Parking at Longhoughton Beach: AH advised the funding bid by Howick Estates to restrict parking on the dunes/headland has been successful although an offer letter has not yet been received. Provided this is received the funding will cover creating a restricted area for parking which will prevent further damage being done to the dunes and headland by vehicles. The receipt of this funding will enable a scheme to be put together to restrict the number of vehicles going down Beach Road to park. AH advised the PC has yet to have the opportunity to talk further with NCC about the possibility of a car park in the old playing field to help with this project (and also parking issues in Lacey Street and other places in Longhoughton). This to be discussed when the PC secures a meeting date with John Riddle, Cabinet Member with responsibility for Highways.</p> <p>d) Boulmer Update: A report had been previously circulated by CB/AH. Litter: CB to organise litter picking on Boulmer Road and the beach. Litter Bin damage. Storm Arwen blew the top off the litter bin at the north end of Boulmer. CB to report to ET so a replacement can be purchased.</p> <p>e) Howick Updates: JH advised there were no updates from Howick.</p> <p>f) Climate Change Project Update: AH advised Climate Change Group meetings will be re-started very soon. CB has offered to take on this development.</p> <p>g) Green Routes Update: A report had previously been circulated by AH/PB outlining the network of greenways that could be developed and is largely aspirational to demonstrate what is trying to be achieved. The document has been distributed to the PC, AONB, Lesbury Parish Council, AECOM and Northumberland Estates. It will also feature in the Neighbourhood Plan.</p> <p>h) Website Usage and Social Media Report: DH advised that the website receives very few hits and that Facebook generates the most interest.</p>	<p>PB</p> <p>AH</p> <p>CB</p> <p>CB/ET</p>
<p>9.</p>	<p>Correspondence</p> <p>a) LAA – Allotment Insurance – it was noted LAA had renewed their annual insurance and were liaising direct with Howick Estate re payment of their annual subs.</p> <p>b) NALC Enews – 23 Nov, 2, 8, 9 & 16 Dec 2021 and 7 & 12 Jan 2022 - noted</p> <p>c) LC&SCT – Thank You for Xmas Bag Grant – noted</p>	

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	<p>d) RAF Boulmer – It was noted that station will be conducting an on-base exercise between the 7-11 February. There will be no firing within hours of darkness. As part of the Exercise, the RAF will be firing blank ammunition and pyrotechnics on both the Admin Site and Ops Site on 8, 10 and 11 February. In addition, personnel involved in the Exercise will be moving around the camps with weapons and all 'tactical' activity will be confined to the open areas behind Supply and the old helipads on Admin Site or on Ops Site.</p> <p>e) NCC – Storm Arwen Review – it was noted that NCC had set up a review to carry out an enquiry to examine the response of NCC and involved partners. All comments/responses to be sent to nccstormarwenreview@northumberland.gov.uk The PC will be making a response and a draft will be circulated to all Councillors.</p> <p>f) NCC – Climate Change Q&A – 19/1/22 – CB to attend</p> <p>g) NCC - Queen's Platinum Jubilee Fund - NCC has allocated £70,000 to create a Queen's Platinum Jubilee Fund to enable non-profit making community and voluntary groups, schools, local charities, parish councils and churches within Northumberland to apply for grant funding to help them to take part in celebratory events, and community and legacy projects, to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Further information, forms and guidance are available from: Noted that the PC intends to apply for the proposed community celebration provided that it goes ahead. https://www.northumberland.gov.uk/Business/Grants/Grants-Funding.aspx#queensplatinumjubileefund</p> <p>h) Val Hodgson, Romaine Barclay-Kim, Eleanor Philips and Tom Rippon re War Memorial – AH advised 3 responses had been received re the Facebook discussion about a war memorial for Longhoughton. AH was collating feedback/comments.</p>	<p>AH</p> <p>CB</p>
<p>10. Parish Financial Matters:</p>	<p>a) Mysoft (NDP Website) - £230 – PAID</p> <p>b) Amazon (Speakerphone) - £73 - PAID</p> <p>c) Consideration of Grant Requests – it was proposed CG, 2nd JB to award grants as follows: SS Peter & Paul £950, GNAA £200, Percy Hunt Club £200, Howick Art Group £200. All agreed. It was also agreed to add an item in the newsletter in a few months to remind local community groups there is grant funding available and to consider awarding grants in January and July each year rather than once a year.</p> <p>d) Clerk (Stamps) - £7.92 - agreed</p> <p>e) Shiel & Morrison (Newsletter) - £320 – agreed</p> <p>f) Clerk (ink/stationery) – £111.21 – agreed</p> <p>g) Howick Estate (Grass Cutting Boulmer Meadow) - £118.48</p>	
<p>11. Plans:</p>	<p>a) 21/04715/FUL – single storey extension to rear and side - Cortico, Boulmer, NE66 3BX – no objections</p>	<p>ALL</p>
<p>12. Matters for Information/Next Agenda:</p>	<p>Beach Toy Box: BE expressed concern about the condition, liability and toy safety of the toys left in the beach boxes. AH acknowledged and duly noted his concerns. However JB thought that the box was a good idea.</p> <p>Thanks: AH wished to thank Chris Thomas for all his support, help and work on the community newsletter, Neighbourhood Plan, mapping the green routes. ET to write to Chris Thomas on behalf of the PC.</p>	<p>ET</p>
<p>13. Date of Next Meeting:</p>	<p>7.30pm – Monday 21 February 2022 – LCSCT Westfield Park</p>	<p>AH</p>

9.51pm the meeting ended.

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