



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

Present: Cllrs Hinchcliffe (AH) (Chair), Ellis (BE), Green (CG) and Hindson (DH).

In attendance: Elizabeth Taylor, Clerk (ET).

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 members of the public.		
1.	Apologies for Absence: Cllrs Bromley (Vice Chair) (PB), Barras (JB), Bradshaw (CB), Middlemist (KM), County Councillor Wendy Pattison (WP) & Flt Lt Ayshea Lewis (AL).	
2.	Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 17 January 2021. The minutes to be amended so that the date in item 2 reads Monday 15 November 2021 not 2022. Otherwise, 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. PC/NCC Meeting: A Zoom meeting had been held with Paul Jones, Executive Director and Rob Murfin, Head of Planning of NCC on 7/2/22. AH and CG represented the PC – see item 8c) for more details. In addition, Deputy Leader Richard Wearmouth will be attending the PC meeting in person on 21/3/22. Boulmer Litter Bin Lid: ET advised the damaged lid had been reported to NCC who had offered to replace it. CB/AH to confirm when replaced. Boulmer Litter Pick: AH advised a date had yet to be arranged for this. QE2 Jubilee: AH confirmed the PC had applied for a £500 grant from NCC. Precept: ET confirmed the precept had been submitted to NCC.	KM CB/AH CB
4.	Declarations of Interest: None	
5.	County Councillor Wendy Pattison – Northumberland County Council Update WP had circulated a report prior to the meeting. NCC budget focused on economic recovery, protecting frontline services and looking after the most vulnerable is to be considered by NCC. Proposals include a £307 million capital programme for 2022/23 covering major investment in affordable housing, improvements to leisure centres and a range of renewable energy schemes to make the county greener and cleaner. Savings of £9.7 million are also earmarked but will not be at the expense of frontline services. Reporting a Tree Problem: NCC is responsible for the safety and management of trees on land in its ownership, and trees on road verges (but not trees in hedgerows alongside roads). The safety of trees on privately owned land is the responsibility of the landowner, and trees in hedgerows alongside roads are the responsibility of the owner of the hedge. If you see a tree that you think is a potential public safety problem, please contact NCC who will inspect the tree, and if it is owned by NCC, any work considered necessary will be prioritised according to the level of risk it poses to people or property. If the tree is privately owned NCC will advise the landowner. Tel 0345 600 6400	

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	<p>Garden Waste Subscriptions for 2022 are now open. Re-subscribe or register online by visiting http://gwaste.northumberland.gov.uk/ or Tel 0345 600 6400</p> <p>Beat Covid NE: NCC is backing the new campaign, which aims to support the region as we learn to live alongside Covid. The campaign reminds people that their simple actions can have a big effect on slowing the spread of the virus going forwards, as we learn to live alongside it. “Whether that’s isolating when you show symptoms, testing regularly or wearing face coverings in crowded places, as well as taking up the vaccine, there’s lots we can all do ongoing to help slow the spread of the virus. To find out more about Beat Covid NE visit www.beatcovidne.co.uk</p>	
6.	<p>Inspections - Longhoughton Playing Field/Footpath: DH advised all ok. It was noted that there isn’t a missing dog bin by the Playing Field – the dog bin had been replaced by a dual purpose litter/dog bin.</p>	DH
7.	<p>Matters Arising A report on matters arising had been previously circulated by AH/PB.</p> <p>a) Storm Arwen: Compensation letters for some residents of Boulmer and Longhoughton from Northern Powergrid are still outstanding. Make your claim as soon as possible by calling 0800 028 9517; emailing compensation-queries@northernpowergrid.com, by post to RSXE-RCZX-XKBL, Storm Arwen Compensation, Northern Powergrid. Manor House, Station Road, Penshaw, Houghton-le-Spring. DH4 7LA. DH to include full details on the PC website/social media. CG strongly felt that NCC should co-ordinate/operate a list of vulnerable people in such emergencies and that the PC should have access that list to help on the ground. AH to feedback to the NCC via the review accordingly.</p> <p>b) Vibration from Quarry Blasting: The independent specialist company monitored vibrations from blasting on 24/01/22 and 25/01/22. Their report on their measurements indicated the vibrations were well within the limits specified in the planning conditions. On 24/01/22 3 representatives of NCC Planning observed the blasting and AH has requested they review and submit a report to the PC on their observations and interpretation of the report by the specialist blasting company. It was agreed the PC to wait for this feedback before responding to the complainants.</p> <p>c) QE2 Big Lunch: The RAF are to join the celebrations and join in with the BIG LUNCH event at LCSCT on Sunday 05/06/22. The RAF will also bring an approved budget of £7,000 which will bring the total budget to £10,500. Sub-groups have been formed to do more detailed planning and enquiries are being made to book large items for the event. It is hoped that transport to/from Howick and Boulmer can be arranged to facilitate residents to attend.</p> <p>d) Proposed Closure of Longhoughton Surgery: The notes of the public meeting held on 10/2/22 at 7pm at LCSCT had been previously circulated (note taker: Derry Neugent of Healthwatch Northumberland). These were agreed as a correct record. To be noted the open meeting had one agenda item, namely the proposed closure of the Longhoughton Branch Surgery. The meeting was open to residents to ask questions and express views to Alnwick Medical Group (AMG). The PC is non-party political and its aim is to see services available in the community according to need. The parish is rural but growing, with a large elderly population and has poor transport connections. Through community plans and surveys in 2017, 2018 and 2021 local residents have shown themselves strongly in favour of keeping and improving locally based services which includes the re-opening of the branch surgery. AMG’s attendance at this meeting was to listen and engage with local residents to understand concerns and look for mitigations. The proposal is not a fait accompli. The reasons AMG had made the request to close the branch surgery were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainability - to use finite resources across the whole practice area. 	AH/DH AH

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reducing staff working in isolation which was not good for support, supervision and training. • Financial – rent costs are supported but not staffing • Current premises are not fit for purpose <p>AMG had made the proposal to close the surgery and the Primary Care Commissioning Committee would make the final decision.</p> <p>AH reported that it would be 2nd week in March before AMG were able to consider and review the issues raised at the meeting. AH had subsequently circulated to the PC a Parliamentary Report on the review of the whole of the NHS which flagged that “levelling up” meant not only North/South but also urban/rural. AH advised Anne Marie Trevelyan MP was due to hold a meeting with AMG. It was agreed AH should correspond with the MP about the proposed closure and represent the PC at that meeting if possible.</p> <p>e) Parish Council Vacancy: It was noted that John Haughie had resigned as Parish Councillor, Howick Ward. John was thanked for his time and work on the Parish Council. There are now 2 vacancies for Howick. ET to notify NCC accordingly and arrange for the vacancy to be advertised. It was agreed BE and PB would take over as bank account signatories. AH as existing signatory to liaise with PB and BE and Barclays. BE to take over collating/co-ordinating planning application responses for NCC. DH to takeover putting up notices in the Co-op noticeboard. John Haughie confirmed he was happy to continue to put up notices etc at Howick and also arrange for anything that needs to be passed around such as parish newsletters, TROs etc. This was accepted with thanks and it was agreed ET to continue to send John Haughie agendas and minutes accordingly.</p>	<p>AH</p> <p>ET AH BE DH</p>
<p>8.</p>	<p>Reports for Discussion All reports had been previously circulated by AH/PB.</p> <p>a) Parish 4 Year Plan: An updated plan would be circulated for the March meeting.</p> <p>b) NP Update: An updated version of the Pre-Submission draft of the Neighbourhood Plan has been received from Jo-Anne Garrick. PB/AH to review prior to issue to the Steering Group. The grant application to Locality for £1,676 has been approved (to be spent prior to 31.03.22 and mainly on professional fees). The request to Locality for the Master planning package has been approved and AECOM are to undertake this work which will be a study of 5 potential sites in the Parish for future housing development. AECOM will look at the potential design, open spaces, links to nature, biodiversity, recreation, links to green corridors, access as well as views in and out of the sites. The work is expected to take around 4 months</p> <p>c) Longhoughton Update:</p> <p>Howick Bridge: PB is finalising the details with landowners/farmers and then a bid will be made for the grant. As recommended by AONB, it is for a slightly bigger scheme to include stiles, gates and some way-marks for the permissive route. Implementation will be in late-summer 2022.</p> <p>Longhoughton Traffic Management Review: PB, NCC Highways and AONB met on 11/2/22. A draft proposal to re-position the various speed-restriction signs has been drawn up, but the PC has said that these can only be considered in conjunction with gateway features, physical measures and further road markings. PB has been assured that NCC Highways and AONB now have all the design-contracts in places to bring this forward for design but this may have to be as part of the LTP and therefore it’s possible implementation will now only be in 2023.</p> <p>Low Steads and Parking at Longhoughton Beach: The grant made by AONB to physically restrict parking at Longhoughton beach has been approved and the physical changes will take place prior to 31/03/22. This will reduce the number of parking places to below 100. The PC, Howick Trustees and the Forsyth’s are now</p>	

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	<p>working on a ticketing system that will be implemented to reduce the number of vehicles going down the lane to the Beach car park. A ticket will be needed to park at the beach and this will be obtained via the internet. There will be a fee for obtaining a ticket. The fees will be used to pay the expenses incurred in running the scheme and any surplus will be used for the benefit of local charities. Some free places will be available for local people. It was recognised that a turning area would be required at the bottom as people will want to drop off/pick up family members and beach gear. The scheme also ideally needs an overflow car park for up to 60/70 cars at the top of the lane and a possible site identified is the old recreation ground southern end. This has been discussed with NCC to get their support at the Zoom meeting with Paul Jones, Executive Director and Rob Murfin, Head of Planning of NCC on 7/2/22. NCC favoured a temporary car park in this location but this could only be open for 56 days under Covid conditions but only 28 days pre-Covid. The 28/56 days do not need to be consecutive. NCC also thought that entrance/egress to the temporary car park should not be over-engineered. The entrance also needed to be moved further down the lane to enable signage to be installed. A response from NCC on these points is awaited. It was agreed that the PC should make some enquiries, without any commitment, with Northumberland Estates about the possibility of making arrangements for a temporary car park on the old recreation ground. However, if this is possible, it must have an agreement with NCC to develop it into a full car park operated by them. It was noted that before any action was taken a consultation would take place. NCC has also been asked to introduce restrictions on parking on 216 metres of grass verge immediately prior to the entrance to the Longhoughton beach car park to prevent vehicles parking there rather than pay the fee to park. NCC are to review what measures can be introduced here.</p> <p>Lacey Street Parking: This issue was also discussed at the Zoom meeting on 7/2/22. The PC asked how resident parking can be better arranged to provide an increase in the number of parking places; how parking can be arranged so that the carriageway is not impeded; whether restrictions can be implemented to reserve parking to residents only. NCC advised that it is not a resident's right to park outside their house. People who block a drive or park blocking a pavement are committing an offence and it is a police matter. Residents bays can be established but not everyone wants them and they are restricted to two vehicles. It may be possible to restrict the residents bays to specific houses. NCC require more evidence of the issues - perhaps the installation of a camera. NCC would not consider further action in other streets without the evidence. NCC were to consider this situation and talk to Robin McCartney, Highways, NCC.</p> <p>d) Boulmer Update: AH advised there were no updates from Boulmer.</p> <p>e) Howick Updates: JH advised there were no updates from Howick.</p> <p>f) Climate Change Project Update: CB to progress Climate Change Group meeting.</p> <p>g) Green Routes Update: AH advised there were no updates.</p> <p>h) Youth Facilities in the Parish: A report had been submitted by AL. The local Youth Club is organised by the RAF through the RAF Benevolent Society, which pays for the service. This service is primarily for the children of RAF families but it has been open to children from civilian families too. The service was operated by Action for Children, but their contract has now come to an end. A review has been undertaken and YMCA has been selected to run the facility. It is expected the Youth Club will cater for all ages between 8-17 with the feasibility of another club for those children aged 5-8 should the need be required and will now run from the Beacon Community Centre initially on 2 nights of the week building up to 3 nights</p>	<p>AH/PB</p> <p>CB</p>
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	<p>each week dependant on requirement. It is anticipated that all children in the Parish will be able attend the Youth Club and participate in the trips and events however, due to this facility being funded by the RAF Benevolent Fund all service children will have primacy. BE/CG suggested that in future the PC could consider raising the precept so that the PC could contribute further funds to cover staff costs to facilitate civilian attendance at the Youth Club. AH to discuss with AL.</p>	AH
9. Correspondence	<p>a) NALC Enews – 20 & 28 January, 9 and 16 February 2022 - noted b) NALC Member Update – 26 January 2022 - noted c) NHS Improving Access Survey - noted d) Jenn Wilson re Boulmer Car Park – it was noted the pot holes on the entrance to the car park had become bad again but it was also noted they had only been filled late last year. It was also noted the car park was free. AH advised David Purvis had offered to kindly fill the holes again free of charge – it was agreed AH to accept the offer. AH had responded to Ms Wilson direct. It was also suggested the PC erect signage advising “parking at own risk”. ET/AH to liaise. e) Mark Davison re Various Longhoughton Matters inc proposed short cut from Chancel Place – AH had responded direct. f) NCC Communications Updates re Storm Malik - noted g) Thank You Howick Art Group, Percy Hunt Pony Club, Longhoughton Church and GNAA – all noted. h) NCC Local Plan Inspectors Report – noted i) Paul Davison re various Longhoughton matters – AH had responded direct.</p>	ET/AH
10. Parish Financial Matters:	<p>a) LC&SCT (Room Hire 18/1/22 - QE2 Jubilee Meeting) - £18.00 - agreed</p>	
11. Plans:	<p>a) 22/00285/FUL - construction of an Annex - 2 Station Road, Longhoughton- no objections but subject to the building remaining an Annex to the principal property. b) 22/00308/VARYCO - Seaton Point House and Cottages - variation from previous approval – no objections c) 22/00185/VARYCO - Longbank Farm Cottages - variation on previous approval – no objections d) 22/00455/LBC - Littlehoughton Hall, Littlehoughton - construction of an Orangery and to enable division of the property into 2 units – no objections but with some concern about the vehicle access and egress onto the adjacent road.</p>	ALL
12. Matters for Information/Next Agenda:	<p>New date for April meeting: Monday 25 April 2022 NCC Visit: Deputy Leader Richard Wearmouth will be attending the PC meeting in person on 21/3/22. AH to put together a dossier of the current issues so that Cllr Wearmouth should be able to give a clear update on outstanding NCC issues. Armed Forces Covenant: DH advised NCC was organising an Armed Forces Covenant meeting taking place at 7pm on 6/4/22. AL was the Armed Forces Champion on behalf of the RAF. It was agreed AH should represent the PC and attend.</p>	AH AH
13. Date of Next Meeting:	7.35pm – Monday 21 March 2022 – LC&SCT Westfield Park	AH

9.30pm the meeting ended.

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