



The Annual Parish Meeting, Annual Parish Council Meeting and Monthly Meeting of the Parish Council was held this evening at Westfield Park at 7.30pm.

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

In attendance: Elizabeth Taylor, Clerk (ET), Aimee Passmore (RAF Representative) and County Councillor Glenn Sanderson, Leader NCC (item 1).

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.

| <u>Monthly Parish Meeting</u> | | |
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| <u>Minutes</u> | | <u>Action</u> |
| Members of the Public - Questions: there was one member of the public present but then left the meeting after 10 minutes. | | |
| 1. | <p>Leader Northumberland County Council, Glenn Sanderson (GS)</p> <p>GS advised the point of attending the PC meetings was to improve relationships between NCC and PCs, to hear directly from the PC about things that were working well and pleased with and also what things weren’t quite right and where improvements needed to be made. GS was thankful to the NCC frontline staff who had worked hard during Covid and Storm Arwen and he had ensured that in this budget, no frontline services had been cut. GS mentioned new initiatives NCC were introducing such as the Climate Change Community Fund for PCs with £50k available for PCs to bid for re climate change projects – this follows on from the successful £85k Jubilee Fund that PCs could bid for. GS was keen to see more local initiatives that NCC can help financially. GS also mentioned the independent review of NCC and in particular, management of NCC and he assured the PC that he was dealing with the issues that have been in the press.</p> <p>BE raised parking issues in Longhoughton but also the bigger issue of parking problems all along the coastline. BE advised he was impressed with the Ashington railway transport initiative and wondered if a similar initiative could be rolled out elsewhere in Northumberland. BE flagged that the NE mainline was at capacity and that many stations in Northumberland were either closed or underused and that there was no local train service through the spine of the county which could help improve travel issues. GS advised that the LA7 (7 county councils in the North East) were bidding for £163 million of funding and the Northumberland element of that was a bid to repair rural bus stations and to increase the number of tourist buses such as the X18 in rural areas – improving the bus service and the cost of tickets.</p> <p>PB welcomed the news about the LA7 bid and advised it would be beneficial to see how that resource could find its way down to parish level. Any changes/improvements on climate change, tourism, transport also applies and has an impact at parish level too and he felt it was important to get behind localism and make sure that was part of everyone’s agenda. PB advised that PCs struggle to get the local organisations such as NCC, AONB, N’land Estates, Police, local public transport companies, etc. etc. all talking when it tries to achieve small projects such as speeding, transport issues, congestion, parking problems, upgrading footpaths, creating safe pedestrian routes, requesting buses to run in the evening, etc. GS advised the idea behind the Coastal</p> | |

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Summit meeting was to get local organisations talking. GS acknowledged that the Local Area Council was not working very well – the opportunity for PCs to speak and liaise with NCC officers – but that he wasn't sure why it wasn't working. GS had commissioned a review to look into what NCC could do to make that meeting more productive and work better. There was the possibility of a local liaison NCC representative as a first point of contact for PCs who would attend PC meetings to try to help get NCC related work and projects carried out more effectively and efficiently. PB flagged that the PC was still trying to progress a traffic survey in Longhoughton to review speeding and traffic problems in the village and that 3 years on, the review was still not complete due to delays linked to the AONB.

BE flagged that housing and in particular 2nd homes and holiday lets were a local issue for Boulmer and enquired what NCC were doing about the problem – other Councils were placing restrictions on 2nd and holiday let homes. GS advised the NCC local plan is to address this issue where they will have to pay extra Council Tax. NCC were also investing £48 million in affordable housing in the county. CB flagged that 2nd homes and holiday homes resulted in local villages losing their community value.

CB enquired about progress with the new Boulmer car park. GS advised that a pre-application was due to be submitted and he would circulate an update.

BE enquired about funding in general and noted that although NCCs Council Tax limit was capped that PCs were not capped in the level of precept they could set. BE enquired if GS thought the PC should increase their precept and take on more responsibility from NCC to bring services to a more local level. GS advised this had been done in some areas where Town Councils had increased their precept and were doing more in the way of grass cutting and litter picking.

CG flagged the parking issues on Lacey Street and Crowlea Road and that was already a major problem hotspot for parking with the school and church nearby, the opening of the Running Fox had exacerbated the issue. Often the road is so congested with parked cars an ambulance nor fire engine would be able to get through. CG was frustrated that meetings with NCC Highways had got nowhere and that NCC had advised that after a CCTV survey, it was not a problem. The CCTV was installed for only one week, prior to Easter and was not a true reflection of the situation. Had the CCTV remained in place over Easter, there would have been plenty of evidence of the problem. GS advised he would organise for the CCTV survey to be carried out again and noted the previous survey was flawed in terms of length of time and for the need for stronger evidence to help with prioritisation with the NCC budget.

CG also flagged the issue with accessibility to local buses from rural villages and that residents want services connected (eg bus to train), more service options and also timetables that residents can understand. JB referred to the improvement to the X18 and advised it's not just tourist buses that need improving but public transport for residents too, who need to get to the local train station, or to the Cramlington Hospital or to a Doctor's appointment in Alnwick or anywhere in the evening. GS suggested the PC has a meeting with Neil Easton, NCC public transport officer and also Stuart McNaughton to discuss public transport issues in more detail. It was suggested other PCs could also attend the meeting. AH referred to a Parish Council Forum from Tynedale that had been set up where 14 PCs met quarterly with the County Council to discuss various issues. It was suggested something similar with say the 7AONB PCs plus a few other local PCs to discuss/resolve local strategic issues with NCC. GC to offer dates for a meeting to be set up.

BE enquired about what NCC was doing to help the hospitality industry which was struggling to recruit staff now that over 1 million Europeans have gone home. GS

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| | <p>advised the only thing NCC is able to do is help with affordable housing and referred again to the £48 million being invested in affordable housing in the county. GS advised NCC had to make £14 million cuts in next year's budget and a further £14 million the year afterwards too. AH thanked GS for attending the meeting and at 8.25pm GS departed.</p> | |
| 2. | Apologies for Absence: Cllr Middlemist (KM) | |
| 3. | Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 16 May 2022. The minutes to be amended such that item 13b) reads NCC (Half Yearly Precept) - £10,719 CREDIT. Otherwise minutes were approved as a correct record. | |
| 4. | <p>Actions from Last Minutes (unless an agenda item)</p> <p>Boulmer Litter Bin Lid: AH advised the damaged lid was located not in Boulmer Car Park (ET had organised for that lid to be repaired by NCC) but there was another damaged lid on the coastal track north of Boulmer near Cortico. AH advised the bin was in disrepair and needed replacing. It was agreed to purchase a new replacement Topsy 2000 dual function bin. Proposed CB. 2nd JB.</p> <p>Defibrillator: DH advised still no any contact yet from LC&SCT about volunteering to carry out checks on the defibrillator located at LC&SCT. DH/AH to liaise to progress.</p> <p>Chancel Place Bin – Further to the request to change the bin to a larger Topsy 2000 dual use litter/dog bin, AH advised it's location was actually along the quarry track and confirmed that it would be beneficial to change the dog poo bin to a larger bin. It was agreed to purchase a replacement. Proposed CB, 2nd BE. It was also agreed to leave the existing dog bin in situ until a replacement location could be identified for it.</p> <p>21/00346/OUT/Braemar – it was noted that this application had been rejected by NCC. PB advised that when the NP is complete any new homes built in Boulmer will have to be for permanent occupation. WP advised that Craster had successfully asked 2nd homes and holiday lets to contribute to the precept. AH advised the PC had previously considered this but had not taken it forward. It was noted local knowledge in determining which homes were 2nd or holiday lets and also the home owners addresses would have to be identified which was an administrative burden. It was agreed to review this again in September.</p> <p>Acceptance of Office Forms: ET advised completed forms had been received from AH, BE, CG and CT. Forms from everyone else were still outstanding.</p> | <p>ET</p> <p>DH/AH</p> <p>ET</p> <p>JB/DH/KM CB/PB</p> |
| 5. | Declarations of Interest: none | |
| 6. | <p>County Councillor Wendy Pattison – Northumberland County Council Update WP had circulated a report prior to the meeting.</p> <p>A1 Morpeth to Ellingham: The Secretary of State for Transport asked for more information on some aspects of the proposed A1 Morpeth to Ellingham duelling improvement scheme. How can you stay updated on this? You can sign up for alerts at our webpage https://nationalhighways.co.uk/our-work/yorkshire-and-north-east/a1-morpeth-to-ellingham-dualling/ follow the Twitter feed @HighwaysNEAST or FaceBook page - https://www.facebook.com/HighwaysNEast You can also email A1inNorthumberland@nationalhighways.co.uk to sign up to the mailing list.</p> <p>A series of public information events is also planned in a variety of settings along the length of the scheme and would cover weekdays, evenings, and weekends, so that as many people as possible can find out more. Dates yet to be confirmed.</p> <p>Homes for Ukraine: This sponsorship scheme allows people to offer Ukrainians fleeing the war a home. If you would like to find out more about hosting Ukrainians in your home or another property visit: https://www.gov.uk/register-interest-homes-ukraine.</p> | |

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| | <p>Potholes/Pavements: WP advised she had organised for the pot holes in Boulmer to be fixed and Bowmere is on the list to fill. The remaining pavements in Boulmer and Howick will also be repaired.</p> <p>Electric Charging Points: WP asked the PC to think about possible locations for an electric charging point in Longhoughton.</p> <p>NCC Request to Move Litter Bin outside Running Fox: WP advised NCC had contacted her to request that the bin is moved as it is being filled with trade waste from customers. CG expressed grave concern and advised that local residents had enough problems with parking issues and didn't wish to have litter problems added to that. CG requested that until trade bins are installed by the Running Fox and that these were being used before any consideration was given to moving the PC bin. WP to notify NCC accordingly. CB also raised concern about the lack of recycling of all the take away food packaging. AH to liaise with the Running Fox to see what can be done.</p> <p>8.40pm WP departed the meeting.</p> | |
| 7. | <p>Inspections - Longhoughton Playing Field/Footpath: DH advised all ok.</p> | DH |
| 8. | <p>Matters Arising</p> <p>a) Chairs Update</p> <p>Proposed Closure of Longhoughton Surgery: AH/PB met with Tony Brown, Practice Manager of Alnwick Medical Group (AMG) on 30.05.22. The discussions were very productive and will allow the Practice to further investigate the use of the LCSCT for some appropriate types of clinics.</p> <p>Longhoughton Parish Quarry Liaison Group: N'land Estates and Howick Trustees have both confirmed that they would like to be represented on the Group. Tarmac and the Proprietor of Longhoughton Quarry have also stated that they are pleased the Group is being set up. The advert in the June Newsletter resulted in one application from a resident to be a member of the Group. Progress in setting up the Group has been delayed due to the illness of David Purvis the owner of Longhoughton Quarry.</p> <p>Vibration from Blasting: A further complaint has been received from a resident of Spurwell Avenue following recent blasting.</p> <p>Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebration: The celebration was an outstanding success. The event brought the community together and it was estimated that there were 1,000 people present. Many community organisations were involved and thanks to everyone who made the event the success it was.</p> <p>Budget wise of the £3,500 (£3,000 from PC and £500 from NCC) was slightly underspent and the RAF was within their budget of over £8,000.</p> <p>The Commander of RAF Boulmer had made the comment that this can be repeated in a similar form in 2023 and the Organising Committee are keen to see Longhoughton putting on a similar event in late June/early July. It was agreed the PC would support a similar event in 2023 by pledging a budget of £1,500. Proposed CG, 2nd DH.</p> <p>Armed Forces Covenant: AH advised the PC are waiting for the MOD/NCC to arrange a signing ceremony.</p> <p>Barclays Bank: The paperwork for the change in signatories to AH/PB and BE is being processed. Once complete the PC will be able to pursue on-line banking.</p> <p>Parish Clerk: Review of Contract and Annual Review: updated and signed on 31.5.22 with AH/PB and ET.</p> <p>b) Longhoughton Paths/Walking Group: RoW bridge over Stamford Burn</p> <p>A report had previously been circulated by CT. It raised concern about the lack of a safe crossing for walkers over Stamford Burn on PROW 124/019 at Littlemill which is used frequently by locals and walkers. The now unsafe and dilapidated state of</p> | |

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| | <p>the privately owned bridge over the burn 100 yards to the west of the 124/019 has prompted this initiative. Since there is no safe crossing on the PROW, it was agreed the PC should contact NCC Footpaths Officer Philip Bradley to ask to negotiate with the landowner and provide a safe crossing asap.</p> <p>c) Request for Horse Signs in Longhoughton To be postponed as KM was not present at the meeting.</p> <p>d) School Green Plaque: It was agreed AH/CT to reinstate the existing plaque on the 3rd stone step under the sculpture.</p> <p>e) NCC Request to Move Litter Bin outside Running Fox Discussed under item 6 above.</p> <p>f) Damage to Bench at Village Sculpture AH/PB reported a vehicle had damaged the bench but hadn't damaged the newly installed planters. The bench has been cordoned off and AH to also cordon off the planter which had been pushed to overhang one of the parking bays. PB had arranged with James Forsyth to have the planter moved back into position. ET to contact the insurance company to find out the procedure to make a claim. The bench had cost in excess of £1,000. PB suggested that the PC may wish to consider a different replacement bench, depending on the requirements of the insurance claim.</p> | <p>CT/ET</p> <p>AH/KM</p> <p>AH/CT</p> <p>ET/AH/ PB</p> |
| <p>9.</p> | <p>Reports for Discussion All reports had been previously circulated by AH/PB.</p> <p>a) Parish 4 Year Plan: An updated plan was circulated.</p> <p>b) NP Update: The first draft of the Master Plan has been received from AECOM. This has been reviewed by Chair/Vice Chair of the Steering Group along with Jo-Anne Garrick and comments have been passed back. There had been an on-line discussion on 15.06.22. It is hoped that the final draft will be available by the end of the month with the intention of the NDP Steering Group reviewing the proposal.</p> <p>c) Longhoughton Update:</p> <p>Low Steads/Longhoughton Beach Parking: A quotation for the operation of a ticketing system has been received from Bransby Wilson. However, in view of what looks like a drop in traffic visiting the coast, the Bransby Wilson scheme is not going ahead at the moment. No more changes will be made to the parking arrangements for the time being and residents and visitors can continue to park in the restricted parking area. This decision will be reviewed at the end of the season. At the suggestion of Howick Trustees, a Management Group is to be formed to look after the car parking arrangements at Longhoughton Beach. The group will be a charity and have representatives on it from Howick Trustees, Longhoughton Parish Council and the Forsyth Farmers. The request for a voluntary contribution of £1 for parking in the Car Park will continue and this will be used to cover any costs. At the end of each season any surplus will be available for distribution to charitable organisations including the existing recipient, Longhoughton Church. The Management Group will also look for ways to make the lane safer for all users and the possibility of 'Quiet Lane' will be considered. A vehicle counter will be installed to get better statistics on the number of vehicles using the lane and the parking area and better signage will be installed. It was agreed that AH/PB would represent the PC on this Group. AH advised it would have no financial impact on the PC.</p> <p>Development of the Former Recreation Ground: As per 9b) above, the proposals for the former recreation field is included in the AECOM Master Plan, which is being considered further by the NP Steering Group.</p> <p>Lacey Street Car Parking: discussed under item 1 and it is noted GS will organise further CCTV survey. It was noted a further complaint has been received from a</p> | |

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| | <p>Lacey Street resident about the parking congestion and a meeting is being arranged to discuss this with the resident to include the AH, Running Fox and CG.</p> <p>Permissive Route and the Bridge over the Howick Burn: Howick Estates has agreed to undertake some of the heavy tree work and Coast Care has agreed to undertake most of the ancillary work. Agreement has been reached with all the necessary parties. The application form for the funding has been completed and all parties will be meeting to agree timescales etc for implementation in late summer/early Autumn.</p> <p>Traffic Review: the delay has primarily been with the need to have an AONB input to the design process. No further updates have been received from NCC.</p> <p>Planters: The specially commissioned planters have been out in place and filled on the village green. Planting for the jubilee was installed and is in situ. New planting will be put in for Autumn. If these are successful, new planters could be commissioned for other locations.</p> <p>Free Library: The Little Library by the sea was vandalised again – the door was kicked off and the hinges broken. It has since been repaired and the books returned. A police incident number was raised for the damage.</p> <p>d) Boulmer Update:</p> <p>Rotten Stob. The PC agreed to fund the replacement of the stobs in April 2022. Once purchased AH to ask Coast Care if they will install the new stobs in return for a small donation.</p> <p>Boulmer Meadow: AH to make the arrangements for the meadow to be cut in September. Groundworks has agreed to cut the meadow at a similar cost to last year and Howick Estates has been asked if they will again bale the grass.</p> <p>North of Boulmer: There is still an issue with people coming up the sea bank to the north of the village and coming out approximately opposite Cortico. This is damaging the sea bank. Also there are two ‘no camping’ signs that have come down. There has been some illicit camping on Boulmer Steel in recent months. Some of the stobs are also rotten. ET to contact N’land Estates to advise accordingly (and also about ragwort on N’land Estate land)</p> <p>Ragwort Pulling: AH/CB to organise a team to undertake Ragwort pulling.</p> <p>e) Howick Updates: CT is proposing to hold ‘surgeries’ at Howick Village Hall to enable residents to take up any issues with him.</p> <p>f) Climate Change Project Update: No updates</p> <p>g) Green Routes Update: The National Lottery Bid by the AONB is proceeding and an officer has been appointed to take it forward. The PC has been approached to work with the NCC/AONB Team to develop the Greenroutes proposals.</p> | <p>ET</p> |
| <p>10.</p> | <p>Correspondence</p> <p>a) NCC 2023-24 LTP Programme – AH/PB to prepare a briefing note for the July PC meeting for consideration.</p> <p>b) National Highways – A1 Morpeth to Ellingham Scheme - noted</p> <p>c) NCC – Climate Website Consultation - noted</p> <p>d) NALC Enews 25 & 27 May and 1,10 & 17 June 2022 - noted</p> | <p>ALL</p> |
| <p>11.</p> | <p>Parish Financial Matters:</p> <p>a) Hotline (Queen’s Jubilee Memento Water Bottles) - £5.05 – CREDIT</p> <p>b) Tenth Avenue Band (Queen’s Jubilee) - £520 – PAID - noted</p> <p>c) Just Climb (Queen’s Jubilee) - £600 – PAID - noted</p> <p>d) Greenfingers (Boulmer Grass Cutting) - £108 - agreed</p> <p>e) CBS World (Printing) - £15.60 - agreed</p> | |

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| | <p>f) Parish Clerk (Wages) - £1,300.61 - agreed g) HMRC (PAYE) - £162.42 - agreed h) Gill Bromley (Planters and Plants for Village Sculpture) - £371.80 - agreed i) Parish Clerk (Stamps) - £13.60 - agreed j) Shiel & Morrison (£70 Jubilee/£215 Newsletter/£84 Annual Report) - £369 - agreed k) LC&SCT (Queen's Jubilee: £119.89 Trophies/£6.57 Stickers/£35.21 Children's Race Prizes/£150 Grass Cutting/£108 Room Hire) - £419.67 - agreed l) Alexa's Canine Trust (Queen's Jubilee) - £112.91 - agreed m) LC&SCT (Room Hire) - £28.00 – agreed n) MOD (LAA Car Park Rent) - £24 – agreed o) Adrian Hinchcliffe (Queen's Jubilee: £21 NCC Licence/£9.10 bluetack/£348 skip hire for rubbish) - £378.10 - agreed p) Glasdon (2 new Topsy litter bins) - £663.01 - agreed</p> | |
| 12. | Plans: None received | |
| 13. | Matters for Information/Next Agenda: | |
| 14. | Date of Next Meeting: 7.30pm – Monday 18 July 2022 – LCSCT Westfield Park Monday 19 September – Howick Village Hall Monday 17 October – Boulmer Village Hall. | ALL |
| 15. | Nominations: This item was considered in private after all members of the public had left the meeting. A paper on a proposed policy for granting of the Honorary Freedom of the Parish had been previously circulated by AH. It was agreed to adopt the policy, proposed DH, 2 nd PB. It was also noted that there was a proposal was to nominate Mrs Eleanor Philips as Freewoman of the Parish in recognition of her volunteering not only on the Parish Council but also as a Trustee of LCSCT, joint editor of the Community Newsletter and also in recognition of the efforts she undertook to help residents and parishioners throughout Covid and Storm Arwen. Proposed CG, 2 nd CT and all in favour. AH to progress as per the procedure set out in the policy just adopted. | AH |

10pm the meeting ended.

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