



The Monthly Parish Council Meeting of Longhoughton Parish Council was held this evening at Boulmer Village Hall at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllrs Cllr Hinchcliffe (AH) (Chair), Bromley (Vice Chair) (PB), Ellis (BE), Green (CG), McEwen (PM), Tilley (JT) and Thomas (CT).

In attendance: Laura Rowberry (LR) (RAF Representative), Elizabeth Taylor, Clerk (ET) and 2 members 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 Trust; LAA – Longhoughton Allotment Association; NALC – N’land Association of Local Councils; CAN – Community Action N’land; NL – N’land Coast National Landscape; TTRO - Temporary Traffic Regulation Order .

<u>Monthly Parish Council Meeting</u>		<u>Action</u>
<u>Minutes</u>		
Members of the Public: There were no questions.		
1.	Apologies for Absence: Cllrs Barras (JB) and Horsley (HH) and County Cllr Wendy Pattison (WP)	
2.	Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 18 March 2024. The minutes were approved as a correct record.	
3.	<p>Actions from Last Minutes (unless an agenda item)</p> <p>Quarry Vibrations: AH confirmed he had enquired as to progress on NCC Environmental Protection Team’s investigations to establish whether the vibrations were considered to be causing a ‘nuisance’ to households. AH had obtained sufficient information from NCC to circulate an update to the Quarry Liaison Group that the outcome is the investigation was inconclusive. It was noted that following installation of the new wheel wash on 19/3/24, the condition of the road was much improved.</p> <p>Boundary Commission: Lesbury, Alnmouth and Longhoughton PCs are supportive of contacting NCC Town & Parish Council Liaison Group to enquire if a voluntary code can be set up but AH felt more PCs should be involved for it to be an effective request.</p> <p>Boulmer Village Green Stobs: AH yet to progress.</p> <p>Beacon’s Youth Review – LR noted the suggestion to include the Church and School in the Steering Group on Youth Development. AH and LR to progress. LR to liaise with AH about hosting a Youth engagement event/drop-in session at LSCST on 4/5/24.</p> <p>Alnwick Bank Closures: WP not present - no further updates available.</p> <p>Chancel Place Tree Screening: AH confirmed NCC Enforcement Officers had said that they would take enforcement action about the poor planting with Story Homes.</p> <p>PC Bank Account: AH advised no progress yet adding HH as signatory.</p>	<p>AH</p> <p>AH</p> <p>AH/LR WP</p> <p>AH</p>
4.	Declarations of Interest: AH is Secretary and Trustee of LCSCT.	
5.	<p>County Councillor Wendy Pattison – Northumberland County Council Update</p> <p>Alnwick Banking Hub: Cash Access UK will run the Banking Hub, which will include: A cross-bank counter-service transactions run by the Post Office in addition to the current Post Office; a private consultation room staffed by the 5 most commonly used banks in our area – each on a different weekday.</p> <p>Grass Cutting: will start later this year due to the sustained wet weather.</p> <p>Digital Phone Network: UK phone providers have agreed a number of new measures to protect vulnerable customers as phone lines are upgraded to a new digital network.</p>	

Chairman: _____ Date: _____



	<p>Telecoms providers have signed a Charter committing to concrete measures to protect vulnerable households, particularly those using personal alarms, known as telecare, which offer remote support to elderly, disabled, and vulnerable people. Phone providers have been upgrading household landlines to digital technology which uses an internet connection, to deliver a modern network which is secure, efficient, and fit for the future. Under the Charter, all providers have agreed to not forcibly move customers onto the new network unless they are fully confident they will be protected.</p> <p>New Tobacco Bill: The Tobacco and Vapes Bill means that tobacco can never be legally sold to anyone aged 15 or younger and bans disposable vapes. A variety of free support is available in Northumberland to stop smoking. Call 01670 813135 or visit www.stopsmokingnorthumberland.co.uk</p>	
6.	<p>Inspections - Longhoughton Playing Field/Footpath: JT confirmed all ok.</p>	
7.	<p>Matters Arising</p> <p>a) Chair's Matters Arising Paper (a report had been previously circulated by AH)</p> <p>Longhoughton Quarry: AH advised the NCC website indicates Longhoughton Quarry will be submitting a planning application to make safe the works to the Western Quarry and extend the Eastern Quarry. Reports are being collated so that a formal planning application can be submitted for consideration by the public and the PC. AH also advised the next Quarry Liaison meeting has been set for 17/4/24.</p> <p>Longhoughton Traffic Management: PB reported NCC were not supportive of the installation of VMS signs anywhere other than on the Station Road approach from Denwick. PB to get clarification on this decision at his meeting with NCC Highways Officer Robin McCartney on 17/4/24. PM to provide PB with Speedwatch evidence for speed signs elsewhere in the village. Until clarity on this decision is obtained, PB had not progressed requesting funding from either the Quarry or RAF.</p> <p>Alwick Medical Group: distribution of prescriptions from LCSCT started on 2/4/24.</p> <p>b) Lacey Street Public Meeting</p> <p>The meeting with residents, Running Fox and NCC Highways held on 28/3/24 went well. Approx 25 residents were present. All residents of Lacey Street were given a written invite and a report produced of the notes of the meeting, which lasted about 85 minutes. Thanks to HH for taking the minutes. The notes contain 15 actions that are being pursued, notably the need for residents to help gather evidence of a congestion problem that can be passed to NCC Highways. HH to collate. CG requested the PC pursue the use of the playing field as a temporary car park, even if for only 28 days. Using the school playground in summer when the school is closed was also suggested. AH/PB both advised the opening of the playing field for such a short period posed more problems than it solved but that the use of the playing field for a permanent car park would continue to be progressed as part of the NDP.</p> <p>c) Boulmer Ward Vacancy: An expression of interest had been received but no response to any further communications.</p>	<p>ALL</p> <p>PM/PB</p> <p>CG/HH</p>
8.	<p>Reports for Discussion A report had been previously circulated by AH.</p> <p>a) Draft Annual Report: The draft report covering 2023/24 was noted and any feedback to be sent to AH so the report can be finalised ready for the May meeting. A financial statement had also been prepared and circulated for internal use only.</p> <p>b) PC Ways of Working: A report highlighting the need for the workload to be distributed more evenly was noted and agreed. CT suggested discussing this away from a PC meeting in a more informal setting – further details to be circulated.</p> <p>c) Neighbourhood Plan Update: Progress is slow whilst AECOM process the amends to the documentation following the first round of briefings.</p>	<p>ALL</p> <p>AH</p>

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	<p>d) Longhoughton Update: No further updates</p> <p>e) Boulmer Update: No further updates</p> <p>f) Howick Update: CT circulated a proposal for an opening event of Howick Burn Bridge in June. These were agreed in principle. More details to follow in due course.</p>	CT
9.	<p>Correspondence</p> <p>a) Adderstone with Lucker PC – Alnwick Bank Closures - noted</p> <p>b) Beadnell Parish Council – Double Council Tax for 2nd Homes - NCC are to charge 2nd homes double the Council Tax from 1/4/25. A petition which suggests NCC should pass to PCs the extra revenue which it generates in this way was circulated for individual completion.</p> <p>c) Jane Charles – Longhoughton Quarry – AH had responded to the complaints raised about vibrations and mud of the road.</p> <p>d) NALC ENews – March 2024 - noted</p> <p>e) Thriving Together Newsletter #2 - March 2024 - noted</p> <p>f) N'land Coast National Landscape Partnership – Meeting Minutes 27/2/24 - noted</p>	ALL
10.	<p>Parish Financial Matters:</p> <p>a) NCC (Howick Burn Bridge) - £222.49 – CREDIT – noted</p> <p>b) NCC (Howick Burn Bridge) - £15,289.26 – CREDIT. PC contribution to Howick Burn Bridge therefore £380.44 (out of an agreed budget of £2k) – noted.</p> <p>c) HMRC (VAT Refund) – £560.01 – CREDIT – noted</p> <p>d) NCC (Half Yearly Precept) - £13,399 – CREDIT - noted</p> <p>e) Clerk (Wage inc back-dated NALC Pay Award) - £799.76 - agreed</p> <p>f) HMRC (PAYE inc back-dated PAYE for NALC Pay Award) - £192.60 - agreed</p> <p>g) CBS World Ltd (Lacey Street Notice printing) - £21.84 - agreed</p> <p>h) CBS World Ltd (Lacey Street Minutes printing) - £18.72 - agreed</p> <p>i) LCSCT (Room Hire AMG meeting 18/3/24) - £28 - agreed</p> <p>j) Northumberland Accountants (Payroll) - £48 - agreed</p> <p>k) Shiel & Morrison (Newsletter) - £440 – agreed</p> <p>l) Chris Thomas (annual Adobe fee contribution for Newsletter) - £300 - agreed</p>	
11.	<p>Plans</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appeal Decision Ref: APP/P2935/W/23/3316825 - Land South of St Peter and St Paul's Church, Longhoughton – Appeal Rejected 18/12/23 by The Planning Inspectorate – noted. ET confirmed NCC had advised there was no requirement for NCC to contact the PC to notify them of any appeals or the outcome of any appeal. • 24/00966/FUL and 24/00967/LBC – construction of 2No retail pods - Carpark, Howick Hall, Howick, Northumberland, NE66 3LB – no objections. 	
12.	<p>Matters for Information/Next Agenda:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fixed Asset Check – to be reviewed and inspected in June. • AH flagged a growing number of complaints about dog fouling. It was agreed AH to invest in stickers to encourage dog owners to pick-up and dispose appropriately. • PM raised concern about the loss of the local community police to a centralised team. It was agreed an expression of concern to be sent to Northumbria Police. 	<p>ALL</p> <p>AH</p> <p>PM</p>
13.	<p>Date of Next Meeting: Annual Parish Meeting, Annual Parish Council Meeting and Monthly Parish Council Meeting - 7.30pm - Monday 20 May – LCSCT Westfield Park. AH to contact the local community groups to encourage a report to be submitted.</p>	<p>ALL</p> <p>AH</p>

The meeting ended at 9.26pm.

Chairman: _____ Date: _____