



The Monthly Parish Council Meeting of Longhoughton Parish Council was held this evening at LCSCCT Westfield Park at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllrs Cllr Hinchcliffe (AH) (Chair), Ellis (BE), Green (CG), Horsley (HH), McEwen (PM) and Thomas (CT).

In attendance: County Cllr Wendy Pattison (WP) and Elizabeth Taylor, Clerk (ET).

Abbreviations Used in Minutes:

PC – Parish Council; NCC – N'land County Council; NALC – N'land Association of Local Councils
 LCSCCT – Longhoughton Community & Sports Centre Trust; CAN – Community Action N'land;
 LAA – Longhoughton Allotment Association; NL – N'land Coast National Landscape.

Monthly Parish Council Meeting Minutes	Action
Members of the Public: There were no member of the public in attendance	
<p>1. Apologies for Absence: Cllrs Bromley (Vice Chair) (PB), Tilley (JT) and Laura Rowberry (LR) (RAF Representative). It was noted that JT was unable to attend and will therefore have fallen foul of the 6 month rule. Section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972 states a member of a local authority loses office if they do not attend a meeting at least once in any 6 month period. In this instance meetings mean face to face. AH had flagged the unfortunate consequences to JT that if he was unable to attend the November meeting, but due to work commitments, this was not possible. It was also noted that it was unfortunate the 6 month rule does not count 6 meetings but is a 6 month period and that unfortunately the PC does not meet in August or December, which had exacerbated the issue. It was also noted that NALC are currently petitioning the Government to get a Bill passed to allow attendance online via Zoom or Teams to count as attendance at a PC meeting (like it did via the special Bill passed during Covid), but they are yet to get this passed. It was also noted that as of 4 November 2024 (being within 6 months of the May 2025 elections), under Section 89(3) of the Local Government Act 1972, any casual vacancies arising must still be declared to NCC but will not trigger the right for electors to call an election. Therefore, the PC can fill the vacancy through co-option at the PC's discretion. JT could be co-opted immediately back onto the PC. ET to notify NCC and AH/ET to both notify JT.</p>	ET/AH
2. Declarations of Interest: AH is Secretary and Trustee of LCSCCT.	
3. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 21 October 2024. The minutes were approved as a correct record.	
4. Actions from Last Minutes (unless an agenda item). All items covered under Chair's Matters Arising Paper (Item 7b).	
<p>5. County Councillor Wendy Pattison – Northumberland County Council Update Climate Change Toolkit: Provides a starting point for Town and Parish Councils looking to address climate change. It aligns to NCC'S Climate Change Action Plan 2021-23. https://nland.uk/climateactionplan Town and Parish carbon footprints https://impact-tool.org.uk/ will calculate a carbon footprint for any UK parish and gives a good starting point when developing an action plan to reduce emissions. The new NCC Climate Change Action Plan 2024-2026:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communicates the successes and challenges of the previous 3 years • Confirms commitments to achieving 2025 & 2030 net zero targets for CO² emissions • Sets out the direction of travel for the next 3 years to support the achievement of longer term 2040 net zero targets for all greenhouse gas emissions • Highlights the international, national, and regional context within which this programme of work exists, and upon which its success is largely dependent For more info/to subscribe to the newsletter email: climate@northumberland.gov.uk .	

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	<p>Foster Carers: NCC is celebrating the life-changing impact of foster carers and to encourage more to join the team. Fostering can mean everything to those involved and change their lives forever. There is a national shortage of foster families with over 370 needed in the North East alone. In Northumberland, NCC recently announced an increase in payments to foster carers in the first stage of wider plans to grow our fostering provision and strengthen support available. NCC are now part of the 12-council strong regional hub – Foster With North East, and are calling for single people, couples and anyone over the age of 25 with a spare room and an affinity with children and young people to come forward to see the difference they could make to one or many children’s lives. For more info, visit: www.northumberland.gov.uk/foster</p> <p>A Focus on Housing and Health in Northumberland Key stakeholders from across the housing and health system came together to discuss the link between good housing and health outcomes, and to identify opportunities for more collective action in the future.</p> <p>VMS Sign: WP confirmed the new VMS Sign had been installed and was working on Station Road. ET to contact Michael McMonagle of NCC Highways to obtain the VMS Sign reference number and details so it can be added to the PC insurance and the PC’s fixed asset register. Also required, manufacturer details and contact information for repairs/maintenance once the guarantee runs out.</p>	<p>ET</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p>Inspections - Longhoughton Playing Field/Footpath: JT not in attendance but there are no issues that the PC are aware of. JT enquired if wild flowers could be sown in the area nearest to the road. To be followed up when JT next in attendance.</p>	<p>JT</p>
<p>7.</p>	<p>Matters Arising</p> <p>a) Request from Longhoughton Community Gardeners Group (LCG): LCG have requested that the PC add the street furniture which LCG have purchased to the PC assets to be covered by PC insurance and for the PC to share in their upkeep. LCG presently have: 3 wooden benches with backs at the South, North and centre of the village; 1 backless bench down the beach road; 13 planters (2 at the Boulmer road entrance, 4 planters on the village 'green', 1 barrel outside the church, 2 planters at the entrance to Burnside, 2 planters in front of the old folks cottages, 2 large pots outside the Co op). It was agreed ET to ask LCG for: an estimate of the value of all the assets (this info would be required for the PC insurance, if the PC agreed to adopt them); enquire if the LCG Group currently have these items insured; have LCG’s estimation of the condition of each of the fixed assets; enquire if there would be an expectation for the PC to be responsible to replacing these items in the future as well as contributing to maintenance. The PC to then review again at the January meeting.</p> <p>b) Chair’s Matters Arising Paper (AH had been previously circulated a report)</p> <p>NCC LTP Programme 2025/26: ET confirmed the 3 top priorities had been submitted to NCC as follows: Introduce 20mph speed limit on Beach Road in Longhoughton; NCC to undertake a review of the junction where Boulmer Road meets North End B1339 with a view to making it safer for all users; Improve the existing pavement from North End junction, Boulmer Road to RAF Camp.</p> <p>Chancel Place Tree Screening: It was noted this was now in the hands of Robert Wilson, Planning Enforcement Officer. Planting is to taken place in Oct/Nov and a site meeting with NCC Ecology to take place in Summer 2025 to review things on site. CT to inform Ian Davison who had complained about the tree planting.</p> <p>PC Bank Account: AH yet to progress adding HH as signatory.</p> <p>David Smith, MP: Meeting now to be held on 10/1/25 at 10.00am at LCSCT.</p> <p>Road Signage: Concern that NCC do not agree to double yellow lines on housing estates. JT had requested double yellow lines on Eastfield. To be discussed when JT present together with faded road markings JT had reported to NCC.</p>	<p>ET</p> <p>CT</p> <p>AH/HH</p> <p>JT</p>

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	<p>Howick Pavement: CT confirmed no update on the report via NCC's Fix My Street to cut the grass/weeds back on the pavement from Howick Hall towards Seahouses Farm. WP to follow-up with NCC.</p> <p>Youth Strategy for Longhoughton: See agenda item 8e).</p> <p>Lacey Street CCTV Recording: WP to request a summary of the conclusions of the CCTV recording from Robin McCartney, NCC Highways.</p> <p>Quarries Liaison Group: A meeting was held on 8/11/24 and the minutes had been circulated to the PC.</p> <p>Police Liaison Meeting. A meeting is being arranged for 11/12/24. The Police held an open meeting with their van on 4/11/24 at LCSCT. This was poorly attended perhaps due to poor publicity.</p> <p>Liaison Meeting with RAF Boulmer: A meeting was held on 30/10/24 and the minutes had been circulated to the PC. See item 8e) re the Memorandum of Understanding between LCSCT and The Beacon.</p> <p>Speedwatch: PM advised 1,304 vehicles to date have been assessed as part of Speedwatch. 285 were reported as speeding to Northumbria Police. 171 were doing in excess of 25-30mph and 63 cars travelling 31-35 mph in the 20 mph zone.</p> <p>Beach Road: Still no response received from NCC re the speed of traffic. WP to follow up with NCC Highways about the PC's request for 20mph as part of the LTP 2025-56.</p> <p>NHS Health Checks: A small number of people attended on 14/11/24.</p> <p>Wellbeing Walks: These will start on 8/1/25 at 11am from LCSCT and will be publicised in the December Newsletter.</p> <p>Boulmer Car Park: No further updates and no response to the email to NCC to flag the PC has signed and returned to N'land Estate's Solicitor the Deed of Surrender and therefore maintenance and responsibility for the car park has been handed over from the PC to NCC. WP to write to NCC.</p> <p>Proposed new car park next to Boulmer Village Hall: No update on NCC's planning application (due to be submitted by Oct/Nov). WP to chase with NCC.</p> <p>Parish Council Vacancies: ET confirmed the PC can co-opt to both vacancies in Longhoughton and Boulmer wards. AH confirmed both vacancies are being advertised.</p> <p>Fixed Asset Check: Multiutilis yet to remove the seat in Boulmer underneath the Noticeboard. ET to chase. ET confirmed Multiutilis had checked out the Perspex in the Boulmer Noticeboard and this couldn't be cleaned. It would need to be replaced. AH to review.</p> <p>Boulmer replacement Stobs: Use of recycled plastic replacement stobs being investigated by AH. No word from NCC about them taking over responsibility for the stobs leading to Boulmer Car Park. WP to follow-up as part of the enquiry about progress for NCC taking over running the car park.</p> <p>Bike Racks for Boulmer: It was agreed to wait until NCC took over maintenance of the car park and to then submit a request for NCC to install/maintain the bike racks.</p> <p>Neighbourhood Watch Scheme: Northumbria Police are willing to make a presentation. AH to invite them to promote Neighbourhood Watch at Thursday Together. Info to also be included in next Newsletter.</p> <p>Post-decision Review of 24/00590/FUL: WP advised Rob Murfin, NCC Director of Planning had acknowledged the NCC covenant info for ex-Council houses in Boulmer is not in a good state.</p> <p>AMG Prescription Pick-Up: Publicised but it's a case of use it or lose it.</p> <p>Ways of Working: HH to circulate the report from the meeting held on 23/9/24.</p> <p>Gifts at Christmas: AH advised a fund of £600 had been raised for this project. Parish Councillors to make AH aware of residents applicable.</p> <p>Thursday Together: AH circulated a programme of talks planned.</p>	<p>WP</p> <p>WP</p> <p>WP</p> <p>WP</p> <p>WP</p> <p>WP</p> <p>ET</p> <p>AH</p> <p>AH</p> <p>WP</p> <p>ALL</p>
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	<p>Successor Longhoughton Summer Fete: The 2024 Summer Fete produced a surplus of £263.75 that is carried over to any event or events in 2025. The budget from the RAF, the biggest contributor, will be seriously reduced in 2025. It was agreed the whole concept needs to be re-thought and new objectives determined. This needs the whole community to come together and discuss the way forward. It was agreed AH on behalf of the PC to call a meeting and Chair it, to find a way forward.</p>	<p>AH</p>
<p>8.</p>	<p>Reports for Discussion (all reports had been previously circulated by AH/PB)</p> <p>a) Neighbourhood Plan Update: AH reported that the aim of the NDP is for it to be practical and implementable. Meetings had been held with NCC Planning, N'land Estates and also CAN (re community led housing). Sport England have advised they will only provide their support for the playing field to be de-registered if the PC can prove the intention to give up the field for recreation purposes when the new football pitches and facilities at LCSCT were built. ET to review PC minutes from the period 2003-2009.</p> <p>b) Longhoughton Update: No further updates.</p> <p>c) Boulmer Update: No further updates.</p> <p>d) Howick Update: No further updates.</p> <p>e) Memorandum of Understanding: (a report had been previously circulated) The Memorandum of Understanding is about the creation of an improved 'Community Hub' in Longhoughton which would bring together the services currently promoted by the LCSCT, the RAF Families Centre known as 'The Beacon' and the PC. The agreement is aimed at better working between the 3 organisations in Longhoughton to achieve a positive benefit of having two Community Centres; working together to promote a Community Hub; working together for the benefit of RAF families and the wider community and to bring the military and non-military communities closer together and work to eliminate inequalities; to recognise the joint responsibility for children and youth activities by the creation of a strategy group and to avoid damaging competition between the two Centres; for the two Centres to work together to ensure that their individual purposes are fulfilled and to promote the two Centres as a cohesive community hub; to establish an arrangement for working together on communications and planning; to ensure the Armed Forces Covenant is upheld for military families & no one in the military community is at a disadvantage due to their service. CG proposed to adopt the Memorandum of Understanding. 2nd by HH. All agreed by unanimous vote. AH to progress with RAF Boulmer and LCSCT.</p> <p>f) Draft Budget for 2025/26: (a report had been previously circulated) The PC reviewed the proposed budget for 2025/26 and expected income and expenditure. It was provisionally agreed to raise the precept by 10%. To be reviewed and finalised at the January meeting.</p> <p>g) Road Safety and Speeding: (a report had been previously circulated) It was agreed the PC to seek an agreement and quotation with the NCC Highways Department to purchase and place a VMS sign on the southern approach to Longhoughton on the B1339 near Longbank Farm at the start of the 30mph zone. Provided that the quotation is acceptable to the PC, the machine and installation to be paid for out of PC funds available. Proposed HH, 2nd CG. All agreed by unanimous vote. ET to contact Michael McMonagle of NCC Highways.</p>	<p>ET/AH</p> <p>AH</p> <p>ALL</p> <p>ET</p>
<p>9.</p>	<p>Correspondence</p> <p>a) NCC - Precept 2025-26 (Deadline for Return 25/1/25). Noted. Discussed in item 8f) and to be finalised at the January meeting.</p> <p>b) Longhoughton CofE Primary School – Complaint – Parking on Crowlea Road/Lacey Street – AH to respond with all detail and back history of the issues with parking on Lacey Street/Crowlea Road.</p>	<p>AH</p>

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	<p>c) Complaint – anti-social behaviour Carey Place/Eastmoor Boundary. AH advised the RAF Police had dealt with this issue.</p> <p>d) N’land Coast National Landscape Partnership Meeting 13/11/24 - noted</p> <p>e) Trek26 for Alzheimer’s Society – Event Notification – 24/5/25 - noted</p> <p>f) NCC – Free Trees - noted</p> <p>g) NCC – Thriving Together Newsletter Oct Edition #2 and Nov edition #1 - noted</p> <p>h) National Highways – A1 Morpeth to Ellingham Dualling Cancellation – noted</p> <p>i) NALC – Enews Nov '24 – noted</p> <p>j) NALC AGM – 23/11/24 at 10am at NCC County Hall, Morpeth - noted</p>	
10.	<p>Parish Financial Matters:</p> <p>a) Greenfingers (Boulmer Grass Cutting) - £108 – PAID - agreed</p> <p>b) LCSCT (Room Hire AMG Prescriptions) - £80 - agreed</p> <p>c) LCSCT (Room Hire 16/10/24 NCC re Community Walks) - £10 - agreed</p> <p>d) Clerk (November & December Wages & NALC Employers Offer backdated to 1/4/24) - £1,060.75 - agreed</p> <p>e) HMRC (November & December PAYE) - £250.40 - agreed</p>	
11.	<p>Plans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 24/03760/FUL – Replace 3 dormers with 1 large dormer to rear elevation - 19 North End, Longhoughton, NE66 3JG – no objections 	
12.	<p>Matters for Information/Next Agenda:</p> <p>It was RESOLVED to exclude the press and public from the meeting pursuant to Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, as applied by Section 100 of the Local Government Act 1972, as matters under discussion were confidential. Proposed PM, 2nd BE. All agreed. The public meeting closed at 9.33pm.</p>	
13.	<p>Date of Next Meeting: No meeting in December. Next meeting 7.30pm – Monday 20 January – LCSCT Westfield Park</p>	ALL

The meeting ended at 9.33pm.

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