



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

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

**In attendance:** County Cllr Wendy Pattison (WP), Elizabeth Taylor, Clerk (ET) & 2 members of public.

**Abbreviations Used in Minutes:**

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

<b>Monthly Parish Council Meeting Minutes</b>	<b>Action</b>
<p><b>Members of the Public:</b>  <b>Tree Planting at Chancel Place:</b> Ian Davison enquired as to progress. ET read out an email received from Robert Wilson Planning Enforcement Officer dated 21/1/25 which advised the tree planting season runs from November to March therefore there is still time for planting to be carried out before NCC Ecology Team meet the developer in the Summer. ET also read out an email WP had received from Robert Wilson, also dated 21/1/25, in which he advised following Enforcement Review, due to the wording of the condition in question, formal action isn't an option but that as the developer has been corresponding with NCC Ecology Team, he is hopeful that they will carry out work that has been agreed. However, if action is not taken, NCC Enforcement are unable to serve a Breach of Conditions Notice for this case. It was agreed PB/AH to flag at their meeting with N’land Estates to see if they can influence the matter to be progresses. WP suggested that the PC and/or Longhoughton Community Gardeners pay for and plant the trees. Concern was raised at this suggestion as the PC does not own the land, it should not near the cost of an NCC error and the question of who then assumes responsibility for the ongoing maintenance for the trees. The PC all agreed NCC should be held responsible for their error in the wording of the condition. AH/ET to write to NCC accordingly.            Mud on Road: Ian Davison reported the excessive mud on the road by the Quarry. AH confirmed he had already noted and reported this to the Quarry so they could take action. AH to flag again at the next Quarry Liaison meeting.  <b>One-Way Street Burnside:</b> Craig Thompson flagged this again and it was noted there was nothing more the PC could do. All avenues of remedial options with NCC had been exhausted. WP reaffirmed the only option was for Craig to submit a formal complaint to NCC <a href="mailto:complaints@northumberland.gov.uk">complaints@northumberland.gov.uk</a>  <b>Worm Digging at Boulmer:</b> WP and AH had held a meeting with NIFCA (N’land Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority) where the processes and challenges of regulation NIFCA would need to consider before being able to take bait digging/removal into any form of management or control were discussed. There is no bye-law in existence to protect the worms at Boulmer Haven and without a bye-law enforcement cannot take place. For a bye-law to be established a professional study needs to be undertaken to assess how the stock of worms is being affected, evidence to show that the stocks are diminishing and the impact on other species. If there is evidence then it becomes a question of how to manage enforcement but any proposed bye-law would be carefully considered by DEFRA. WP flagged it might result on a total ban on worm digging. The NIFCA representatives suggested that this issue is presented at their Board meeting on 28.04.25 as an issue from the PC and WP. The PC all agreed for WP and AH to attend with AH representing the PC. WP also invited Craig Thompson to attend.</p>	<p><b>AH/ET</b></p> <p><b>AH</b></p> <p><b>AH</b></p>
<p><b>1. Apologies for Absence:</b> Cllrs Horsley (HH) and Laura Rowberry (LR) (RAF Representative).</p>	

Chairman: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



2.	<p><b>Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 20 January 2025.</b> The minutes were approved as a correct record.</p>	
3.	<p><b>Declarations of Interest:</b> AH is Secretary and Trustee of LCSCT.</p>	
4.	<p><b>County Councillor Wendy Pattison – Northumberland County Council Update</b> WP had previously circulated a report. <b>Emergency Contacts:</b> NCC out of hours service: Call 0345 600 6400. Northern Powergrid/SP Energy Networks: Call 105. Onecall (for concerns about vulnerable residents/safeguarding issues): 01670 536400 <b>NCC VE Day Fund:</b> a special community fund has been launched by NCC to help communities commemorate the 80th anniversary of the end of WWII. Grants of up to £250 are available to non-profit making community and voluntary groups, schools, parish councils, churches and local charities. The fund will open for applications on 24 January through to 21 February. Contact: <a href="mailto:communitychest@northumberland.gov.uk">communitychest@northumberland.gov.uk</a> <b>NCC Adult Social Care Rated Good:</b> Provision in Northumberland has been rated 'Good' by the Care Quality Commission (CQC). More than 20,000 people each year receive information, advice, support and services from adult social care services in Northumberland. <b>Future of Farming:</b> The Leader of NCC has written to Government raising concerns on the future for farming in Northumberland. It comes after Members voted to support a motion at Full Council calling on the Government to reverse changes to inheritance tax law on agricultural land. One of the recommendations agreed by the Council was that the Leader would write to the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, expressing the Council's concerns at the changes.</p>	
6.	<p><b>Inspections - Longhoughton Playing Field/Footpath:</b> CG confirmed all ok.</p>	CG
7.	<p><b>Matters Arising</b> <b>a) Chair's Matters Arising Paper (AH had been previously circulated a report)</b> <b>Worm Digging at Boulmer:</b> Discussed in Public Questions above. <b>Weightman Stone:</b> AH contacted Northumberland Estates who reaffirmed they did not wish for the stone to be moved and confirmed it was to be left insitu. <b>Boulmer Car Parks:</b> ET confirmed a letter had been sent to NCC's Chief Executive and Leader. A response was still awaited and had been chased prior to this meeting. <b>VMS Sign:</b> ET confirmed the order has been placed by NCC on behalf of the PC. PB confirmed the post had been installed <b>Community Gardeners Furniture:</b> ET confirmed the list of furniture adopted by the PC from the Community Gardeners had been added to the list held by the PC insurers. The new VMS sign on Station Road had also been added. <b>NHS Health Checks:</b> 7 people took advantage of the checks. The staff are thinking of introducing an appointment system so people do not arrive at the same time. <b>Wellbeing Walks:</b> Attendance averaging between 6-13 people. 2 more people are being trained as walk leaders. <b>Community Lunch:</b> 37 people attended the January lunch. <b>Thursday Together:</b> Holding presentations and talks has increased attendance to an average of around 25. <b>Parish Council Ways of Working:</b> AH to liaise with HH over the output from the meeting held on 23/9/24. <b>Community Event 2025:</b> AH flagged following the article in the newsletter not one volunteer came forward to help organise and run the event. The date needs to be either 5th or 6th July 2025. AH has applied for a grant of £1,700 from the Mayor's Opportunity Fund and £250 from the NCC VE80 Community Fund. Pending the outcome of these applications, a renewed appeal for volunteers will be made, otherwise the event cannot take place and grant monies will need to be refunded.</p>	AH/HH

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	<p><b>Memorandum of Understanding:</b> The Memorandum of Understanding between PC, LC&amp;SCT and RAF Boulmer Beacon Families Centre was signed by AH on behalf of the PC. It will be signed by RAF and LC&amp;SCT will sign on 18/2/25.</p> <p><b>Boulmer Dog Fouling:</b> Still happening despite the Newsletter article and Facebook article. HH also reported regular dog fouling in Longhoughton. ET advised if offenders are known, this can be reported to the Dog Warden and they will attend and fine dog owners if caught in the act. Reports can be made by calling 0345 600 6400 or online at <a href="http://www.northumberland.gov.uk">www.northumberland.gov.uk</a></p> <p><b>Grit Bin for Littlehoughton:</b> ET confirmed residents had ordered this bin (see item 9) and as agreed, the residents are responsible for the ongoing maintenance of the grit bin, spreading of grit, etc.</p> <p><b>b) Parish Council Elections – May 2025</b> ET had circulated the details about procedure and arrangements for the forthcoming Parish Council Elections in Northumberland on 1 May 2025. It was noted there was an online briefing on Teams at 6pm on 3 March that PC could attend.</p>	<p>ALL</p> <p>ALL</p>
<p>8.</p>	<p><b>Reports for Discussion</b> (all reports had been previously circulated by AH/PB)</p> <p><b>a) Neighbourhood Plan Update:</b> AH advised the submission plan was close to being ready to go to NCC for evaluation. Once submitted to NCC, they would carry out a further consultation before it was sent to the Inspector and then taken to a referendum. It was agreed that a leaflet with information about the NDP should be circulated to residents with the next newsletter.</p> <p><b>b) Longhoughton Update:</b> A meeting with N'land Estates re the possibility of a community site at Pondfield, Longhoughton is to take place on 18/2/25. CG reported potential issues with Lacey Street given the Running Fox in Shilbottle is set to close. CG to monitor any issues. PM reported that a new volunteer is to be trained to join the Speedwatch Group and that at a recent speedwatch held at South End, no cars were recorded as speeding. Hotspots for speeding continued to be South End and Boulmer Road. <b>Boulmer Update:</b> WP advised the double yellow lines in the village would be refreshed in April as there were no funds available to do the works before then. AH had appointed a mole catcher to catch moles on Boulmer Wildflower Meadow. WP reported that Bowmere road entrance had been resurfaced. <b>Howick Update:</b> WP advised there were no updates on when the footpath would be re-surfaced.</p> <p><b>c) NCC Open Space Consultation:</b> AH advised he would produce and circulate a report and proposal for consultation feedback to the PC for approval prior to submitting. This consultation was about quality standards for open spaces and the NDP had identified a number of additional amenity green spaces that will be added once the Plan is approved.</p>	<p>CG</p> <p>AH</p>
<p>9.</p>	<p><b>Correspondence</b></p> <p>a) James Forsyth – Beach Road – AH had responded confirming the PC had applied for a 20mph speed limit as part of the NCC LTP but that the PC's request to NCC to create a Quiet Lane status had been refused.</p> <p>b) Mark Davison – the mud on Station Road from the quarry lorries had been reported to the Quarry and also would be flagged at the next Quarry Liaison meeting.</p> <p>c) Thank Yous – Longhoughton Community Gardeners, Hospice Care, GNAA and CAB – all noted</p> <p>d) Christmas Gift Thank You – Revd Canon Christine Sindall - noted</p> <p>e) Rebecca Heighington, NCC – Wheeled Action Sports Consultation – AH yet to review and respond.</p>	<p>AH</p>

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	<p>f) NCC – Thriving Together Newsletter Jan #1 &amp; #2 and Feb #1 &amp; Regional Child Poverty Reduction Action Plan – all noted</p> <p>g) Northumberland Coast National Landscape – new website - noted</p> <p>h) NALC – Kings Garden Party 2025 - noted</p> <p>i) Northumberland Green Hub – Space for Nature Talk – 6/3/25 – 7.30pm, Swarland Village Hall - noted</p>	
<b>10.</b>	<p><b>Parish Financial Matters:</b></p> <p>a) NCC (VMS Sign Nr Longbank Farm) - £5,972.50 – PAID - noted</p> <p>b) LSCST (Room Hire: £10 MP, £10 Summer Fete &amp; £80 AMG Prescriptions) - £100 - agreed</p> <p>c) Clerk (January Wages) - £465.55 - agreed</p> <p>d) HMRC (January PAYE) - £109.00 - agreed</p> <p>e) CBS World (Stationery) - £83.56 - agreed</p> <p>f) Clerk (Stamps) - £5.10 - agreed</p> <p>g) Allied Westminster (Boulmer Memorial Hall Insurance) - £468.57 - agreed</p> <p>h) M Frater (Boulmer Mole Catching) - £50 – agreed</p> <p>i) Mark Wood/Catherine Archbold (Littlehoughton Grit Bin) - £200.34 - agreed</p>	
<b>11.</b>	<p><b>Plans:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>25/00428/FUL – self-custom built 3-bed house and double garage and demolition of the existing building – Breamar, Beach View, Boulmer, NE66 3BW – no objections</li> </ul>	
<b>12.</b>	<b>Matters for Information/Next Agenda:</b> None arising	
<b>13.</b>	<b>Date of Next Meeting:</b> 7.30pm – Monday 17 March – Howick Village Hall	<b>ALL</b>

The meeting ended at 8.43pm.

Chairman: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_