



The Monthly Parish Council Meeting of Longhoughton Parish Council was held this evening at LCSCCT Westfield Park at 7.30pm. The meeting scheduled for July was inquorate and was rearranged.

Present: Cllrs Cllr Hinchcliffe (AH) (Chair), Bromley (Vice Chair) (PB), Green (CG), Horsley (HH) and McEwen (PM).

In attendance: 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; NCNL – N’land Coast National Landscape.

Monthly Parish Council Meeting Minutes		Action
Members of the Public - Questions: No members of the public in attendance.		
1.	Apologies for Absence: Councillor Rowberry (LR) (Parish Councillor and RAF Representative) and County Cllr Wendy Pattison (WP)	
2.	Declarations of Interest: AH is Secretary and Trustee of LCSCCT.	
3.	Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 16 June 2025. The minutes were approved as a correct record.	
4.	<p>County Councillor Wendy Pattison – Northumberland County Council Update WP had previously circulated a report.</p> <p>On Street EV Cross-Pavement: NCC recognises the benefits of EVs and are receiving many requests from residents without driveways or off-road parking seeking permission to charge their EVs safely. If you require this service, NCC is prepared to construct a channel allowing a charging cable to be safely run over or across the footway between your property. There are conditions with this agreement. To apply go to NCC FixMyStreet, enter your post code, then select your property location on the map that appears or telephone: 0345 600 6400.</p> <p>NCC’s Library Service Summer Reading Challenge: Launches on 5 July and invites families with children aged 4 to 11 to visit local libraries to discover new stories and enjoy nature-inspired activities. To find out more visit your local library or visit www.summerreadingchallenge.org.uk</p> <p>High Hedge Complaints: If you have been unable to resolve a high hedge dispute with your neighbour you can request NCC look into your complaint under Part 8 of the Anti-social Behaviour Act 2003. NCC charge £400 to investigate. NCC’s role is not to mediate/negotiate between the complainant and the hedge owner but to decide whether the hedge is adversely affecting the complainants’ reasonable enjoyment of their property. All high hedge complaints are made available on our Public Access Planning Register. Visit www.northumberland.gov.uk and use the advanced search and pick High Hedge Complaint from the drop-down application type list.</p> <p>Council Tax Scam: NCC residents are being warned to be on their guard following another spate of Council Tax scams.</p>	
5.	Inspections - Longhoughton Playing Field/Footpath: AH confirmed Ken Muers (Mrs McArdle’s gardener) had agreed to undertake regular maintenance of the footpath to remove weeds (not using weedkiller). Once a month for an hour during May-September at a cost of £20 per visit. The first invoice has been received – see 9j)	
6.	<p>Matters Arising</p> <p>a) PC Vacancy: Michael Nichol’s application had been circulated and PC agreed to co-opt to Longhoughton Ward. Proposed HH, 2nd PM. Unanimously agreed.</p> <p>b) PC Website/Email Address: ref the move to a gov.uk domain, no further updates. AH/ET to progress. No response had been received from Rennington PC or NALC on the matter. HH also offered to help support alongside Chris Thomas.</p>	<p>ET</p> <p>AH/ET/HH</p>

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	<p>c) Chair's Matters Arising Paper (AH had been previously circulated a report)</p> <p>Howick Road Repairs: Further patching has been done but further complaints received and the stretch of road through the trees near Red House Farm turn needs re-surfacing.</p> <p>Standing water near Longhoughton Quarry: Work concluded last week, new gullies and a new pipe installed under the road.</p> <p>Safeguarding Policy: AH/ET to review.</p> <p>Boulmer Car Park Planning Application: AH reported NCC submitted planning application but it was incomplete and further information has been requested. AH has met with Boulmer Memorial Hall Trustees and it was agreed when the planning application was live, to write a joint letter to Boulmer residents informing them of the application and requesting their support.</p> <p>Overgrown Hedge/Bushes: Complaints have been received about the visibility at the Boulmer Road/B1339 junction when turning right from Boulmer Road. This was reported to NCC's 'Fix my Street' but has not been resolved.</p> <p>Pondfield: Sheep are now grazing in the field. Colin Barnes, N'land Estates has advised that the Land Management Team are responsible for that area. It was agreed PB to write to Julia Robson to pass on the suggestions of what plans the PC had for the field, had it been successful in adopting it as a community asset, eg planting trees, etc.</p> <p>Tree Planting at Chancel Place: Ian Davison complained about the PCs decision to take no further action on this matter. It was agreed whilst a proportion of the trees have died, well over 70% are living and Ian accepted the decision. This matter is now closed.</p> <p>Class Q Planning Applications: A request had been sent to Rob Murfin, Director of Planning NCC, for Planning Class Q applications to be forwarded to PCs on an advisory basis. NCC have advised this is not possible due to system restrictions but that the PC could search itself through the listings each week. It was agreed to take no further action but NOT to ask the Clerk to search through a long listing each week.</p> <p>Boulmer Beach Car Park Takeover by NCC: At the last meeting WP found that the lease is still not signed. No further updates received. See minute 8b) for a further note.</p> <p>Meeting with Robin McCartney, NCC Highways on 17/3/25: The PC wrote on 26/5/25 asking for an update on the actions from the meeting. No response received. It is hoped that with the new NCC communications process will improve responses.</p> <p>Complaint from Val Hodgson: AH yet to progress.</p>	<p>AH/ET</p> <p>AH</p> <p>PB</p> <p>AH</p>
<p>7.</p>	<p>Reports for Discussion (all reports had been previously circulated by AH/PB)</p> <p>a) Neighbourhood Plan Update: NDP Examiner Tony Burton had contacted the PC with a number of questions. Jo-Anne Garrick helped research and prepare the response (see invoice 9h). The Examiner aims to conclude the inspection in early September. NCC is responsible for updating the plan with the Examiners recommendations and then it goes to referendum.</p> <p>b) Longhoughton Update: The PC wished to extend their thanks and praise to the organisers of Longhoughton Garden Open Day, which was a great success. Thank you and well done. AH advised he had dealt with the following complaints: Mrs Tate re parking in Eastfield – referred to complain to WP or NCC Highways direct. Mrs Hunter about Longhoughton Quarry operating on a Saturday. NCC have confirmed the quarry is permitted to operate between the hours of 7am-1pm.</p> <p>Boulmer Update: AH advised Groundworks were no longer able to cut the wild flower meadow. AH was in talks with Howick Estates Head Gardener about them carrying out the work instead. The PC unanimously agreed to pay for the purchase of 250gms of yellow rattle seed (cost £75). AH had been approached by a resident to ask NCC if they would provide a "warning concealed entrance" sign for Boulmer – it was agreed AH to approach NCC with the request. AH asked the PC to note that WP had contacted NCC Highways to request a replacement "Boulmer" road sign which would take 3 months to</p>	<p>AH</p>

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	<p>process. At WP's request, ET had also written to NCC Highways to support the request and to advise it had been missing for 2+ years.</p> <p>Howick Update: No further updates. It was noted no response had been received from David Baring about the PCs appeal for Howick Estates to help the PC find representatives from Howick to sit on the PC.</p> <p>c) Priorities Paper: It was agreed to postpone this item to September.</p> <p>d) PC Ways of Working: It was agreed to postpone this item to September.</p> <p>e) Liaison Meetings: Minutes of all 3 meetings had been circulated by AH. Quarries Liaison - 20/6/25 – 2 applications from residents have been received for the vacancy. It was agreed the PC will review and decide who to appoint at the September PC meeting. RAF Liaison - 23/6/25 - Commander Charlotte Best to be replaced by Joe Redhead. Police Liaison - 1/7/25 – nothing to report.</p> <p>f) N'land Coast National Landscape: a Management Plan is in the process of being compiled and soon there will be a major consultation. Iain Robson, National Landscape Manager will call a meeting of the Chairs of all 16 PCs to talk about the Management Plan. AH advised the Management Plan is the single most important document and will cover the period to 2030. The Management Plan has many implications for PCs. CG raised concern about the plan and PB agreed he wanted clarity on how they will deliver on their targets and held accountable for those not delivered. PB to review the Management Plan in detail and draft a response for the PC to review and sign off. AH advised NCC were to discontinue their Climate Change meetings but that a new organisation call Northumberland Green Hub had started. HH agreed to interact and attend any meetings organised.</p> <p>g) Changes to NCC Ways of Working: It was noted that County Councillors are no longer able to directly contact members of NCC staff with queries or to obtain progress reports. If they have any questions, they have to be placed on an online Members Enquiry System list and will be answered in less than 10 days.</p> <p>h) Longhoughton Fete: the event is now fully organised and will run from 11am-3pm on Saturday 13 September. AH appealed for volunteers.</p> <p>i) Longhoughton Emergency Plan (Draft): AH had circulated a draft plan. The PC agreed to the plan in principle but recognise it would be better if LSCST was successful in obtaining a generator funded by Northern PowerGrid. AH to take draft plan to LCSCST Trustees. Once both had approved in principle, it can be developed.</p>	<p>PB</p> <p>HH</p> <p>ALL</p> <p>AH</p>
<p>8. Correspondence</p>	<p>a) Tony Burton, Examiner – Longhoughton/Boulmer/Howick Neighbourhood Plan – Examination – noted and discussed under item 7a) above.</p> <p>b) NCC – Consultation Responses – Boulmer Car Park – AH had circulated a draft response. The PC considered NCC's proposal following residents feedback to the consultation to charge only between the hours of 9am-5pm to facilitate ongoing use by residents for short periods. The alternative of 1 hour at any time as offered up at Beadnell and Seahouses was debated but it was acknowledged these were much larger car parks and may be unviable for this location. It was agreed to reply to NCC that the PC supports the change to charging for the period 9am-5pm provided the car park is still financially viable at the reduced hours.</p> <p>c) NCC – N'land Local Plan – Call for Sites 2025 – NCC confirmed that the purpose of the 'call for sites' is to ensure that NCC is aware of all sites with potential to support future development and has up to date information relating to these sites. It will not directly impact upon the draft allocations proposed in the Longhoughton NDP; the NDP allocations will outweigh any other listings on the SHLAA/HELAA. But it may mean that at some future time the PC will have to review the NDP allocations. There is also the possibility of a new NCC Local Plan (which could take years to approve),</p>	<p>ET</p>

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	<p>where there is the need for additional allocations within the Parish. If so, and the NDP becomes outdated then the SHLAA/HELAA could come into force. It was noted the deadline for the call to sites is 30/9/25 and therefore the PC can confirm its response at the September meeting.</p> <p>d) NCC – National Telecare Campaign – noted. CG advised BT were holding an online presentation on the move to digital on 18/8/25 at 11am. AH to join AH at the meeting.</p> <p>e) Alnwick & Denwick Neighbourhood Plan Review – Pre-submission Draft Consultation – HH to review the plan and draft a response for the PC’s review/approval.</p> <p>f) Harry Humble – Littering on Roadside – It was noted Harry Humble had attended Lesbury PC’s meeting and is concerned about littering on the A1068 from McDonalds and other food retailers. WP had subsequently written to each of the 6 PCs in Longhoughton Ward to enquire if they might join Lesbury PC and offer support to try to reduce roadside littering on the A1068. Littering is a criminal offence and McDonalds litter contains actionable evidence (a receipt of sale with a time and date stamp) which Northumbria Police can use to obtain the CCTV footage from McDonalds to find the owner of the offending vehicle. Harry Humble had successfully used this process in 2017/18, and a Community Support Officer from Northumbria Police gave the offender a caution. Harry Humble was asking for the support of the PCs to ask McDonalds to help address littering and to take positive action by putting up a sign at their Drive-Thru advising littering is a criminal offence and to ask Northumbria Police to engage in a scheme whereby Harry Humble can collate actionable evidence (photo of litter at location, What3Words location and receipt) to present to Northumbria Police on a regular basis (in line with the retention of the McDonalds CCTV footage) for the Police to take appropriate action. The PC agreed to be part of a joint letter to McDonalds. It was also agreed a meeting with the Police was required to ensure they were onboard with the proposal and that the next Police Liaison Meeting on 21/10/25 could be utilised for this purpose.</p> <p>g) Marie McArdle – Path to Longhoughton Playing Field – maintenance now agreed (see item 5 above).</p> <p>h) Cllr Glen Sanderson, Leader NCC – Corporate Performance Report - noted</p> <p>i) Cllr Mark Mather, Cabinet Member for Highways – Contacting NCC Highways - noted</p> <p>j) NCC – Thriving Together Newsletter June # 2, July #1 and July #2 - noted</p> <p>k) NCC – Latest News - noted</p> <p>l) NALC – Update - noted</p> <p>m) N’land Coast National Landscapes Update (Membership / Minutes 1/7/25 / Management Plan) – noted (see item 7f) above).</p> <p>n) Alnwick Harriers – N’land Coastal Run – 27/7/25 – noted</p> <p>o) NCC Local Transport Plan (LTP): It was noted NCC proposed to change the rhythm of the NTP; previously the PC would nominate their top 3 priorities (linked to roads and footpaths) each year to NCC to be considered for funding and action by NCC. The proposal was to now have a 3-year plan.</p>	<p>ALL</p> <p>CG/AH</p> <p>HH</p> <p>ET/AH</p>
<p>9.</p>	<p>Parish Financial Matters:</p> <p>a) Longhoughton Community Gardeners (Grant Request Shed £713 and Arch £225) - £938 – agreed proposed CG, 2nd PM, but it was noted no further financial allocations could be made to the group in January/February when grants were usually allocated.</p> <p>b) Howick Village Hall (Village Hall Insurance) - £226.18 - agreed</p> <p>c) LCSCT (Room Hire – Quarry Liaison £20 / AMG Prescriptions June £64 and July £80 / Police Liaison £10 / Open Gardens £144.50) - £318.50 – agreed. It was noted that 80+ residents were collecting their prescriptions each week from AMG via LCSCT.</p> <p>d) Clerk (July Wages) - £465.35 - agreed</p> <p>e) HMRC (July £109 PAYE and £19.25 Employers NI) - £128.45 - agreed</p> <p>f) Northumberland Accountants (Payroll) - £69 - agreed</p>	

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	<p>g) A1 Bounce (Longhoughton Fete) - £1,338 - agreed h) Jo-Anne Garrick (NDP) - £1,980 - agreed i) N'land Estates (Boulmer Village Green) - £10 - agreed j) Ken Muers (Longhoughton Playing Field Path) - £20 - agreed k) Clerk (August Wages) - £465.55 - agreed l) HMRC (August £109 PAYE and £19.25 Employers NI) - £128.25 – agreed</p>	
10.	<p>Plans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 25/02395/FUL – rear elevation single storey conservatory - 1 Copley Hall, Copley Hall Drive, Howick, NE66 3LE – no objections • 25/02635/PRUTPO – Tree Preservation Order: T1 3 Sycamores crown lifted 3m and T2 1 Copper Beech crown lifted 3m - Longhoughton Hall, North End, Longhoughton, NE66 3AG – no objections • 25/00810/FUL – 4# dwellings in replacement of barn with extant Class Q approval for 6# dwellings (amended description 6/8/25) - Longbank Farm, Longbank Drive, Longhoughton, NE66 3AP – This application had only just been received. The PC had given the application an initial review and could find no planning reason to object to this application but had grave concerns about it: 9 properties would be built but with no provision of affordable housing and with no footpath to the village. PB to draft a response for PC review and response. 	PB
11.	<p>Matters for Information/Next Agenda</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AH advised that there may be a deficit of £1,984 to cover the annual cost to hire the astro turf from September-April to provide the 11-18year old weekly football club. The PC agreed to consider funding this with a grant if there was a deficit in funding as this provided a facility and opportunity for youths in the village. AH to advise. • PM advised a police camera van had been in situ for the Powburn Show. • PM advised residents who banked with Lloyds could receive a compensation payment for not having been notified of the final closure of the branch in May 2025. • ET to circulate the fixed asset register so that the PCs fixed assets (seats, grit bins, bus stops, litter bins, dog bins) could be allocated for checking at the September meeting. 	AH ET
12.	Date of Next Meeting: 7.30pm - Monday 22 September – LCST Westfield Park	ALL

The meeting ended at 10.05pm.

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