



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

Present: Cllrs Hinchcliffe (AH) (Chair), Green (CG), McEwen (PM), Nicholls (MN), Rowberry (LR) (Parish Councillor and RAF Representative)

In attendance: 4 members of the public and Elizabeth Taylor, Clerk (ET).

Abbreviations Used in Minutes:

PC – Parish Council; NCC – N’land County Council; NALC – N’land Association of Local Councils
 LCSCT – 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
<p>Members of the Public – Questions: Ian Knox in attendance (ref item 2). Ella Brown in attendance (ref Quarry Liaison Group – item 7c). Mary Callam in attendance as an observer to learn more about the work of the PC. Boulmer Worm Digging: Craig Thompson enquired about worm digging at Boulmer and if the PC had heard anything further from NIFCA. Craig attended the NIFCA Board meeting on 28/4/25 where it had been confirmed digging for personal use was permitted but digging for commercial resale was not and NIFCA had agreed to explore the issue of permits with the Police to help enforcement. AH to contact NIFCA for an update. Burnside No Entry: Craig Thompson advised the no entry was still not being adhered to. PM suggested the issue is it’s “no entry” rather than a “one-way system”. If changed, sat navs should be updated to hopefully resolved the issue. ET to contact NCC Highways to make the request. Residents of Burnside were also encouraged to make the request on NCC FixMyStreet“ LR to flag via RAF comms that the street is no entry from B1339.</p>	<p>AH ET</p>
<p>1. Apologies for Absence: Councillor Bromley (Vice Chair) (PB), Horsley (HH) and County Cllr Wendy Pattison (WP)</p>	
<p>2. Parish Council Vacancy Application – Ian Knox – Howick Ward Ian Knox’s application had been circulated and PC agreed to co-opt to Howick Ward. Proposed PM, 2nd CG, all in favour. Ian Knox was welcomed to the PC.</p>	
<p>3. Declarations of Interest: AH is Secretary and Trustee of LCSCT.</p>	
<p>4. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 11 August 2025. AH asked that it be noted under the section of AON, the LCSCT weekly football club is for 11-16year olds. Otherwise, the minutes were approved as a correct record.</p>	
<p>5. County Councillor Wendy Pattison – Northumberland County Council Update WP had previously circulated a report. Local Markets/Shopping Local: NCC is encouraging residents and visitors alike to support local markets and high streets as part of a wider drive to boost the county’s economy. To find your nearest market/opening times: https://nland.uk/NCCMarkets2025 N’land Data Centre: A multi-billion pound data centre at Cambois was granted planning permission in March and represents a significant inward investment of up to £10 billion. It will be one of the largest in the UK and will deliver hundreds of long-term jobs to operate the centres, plus 1,200 long-term construction jobs over several years of construction and could support up to 2,700 indirect/induced jobs. Bird Flu: All bird keepers are encouraged to be vigilant for signs of ill health in their birds following increased cases of avian influenza. The guidance applies to anyone keeping birds, whether it’s a few hens in a back garden, rearing game birds or a large commercial farm. If you keep captive birds such as poultry, including as pets, and you suspect avian influenza you must report this to DEFRA on 0300 0200 301. More details at: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/avian-influenza-bird-flu</p>	

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6.	<p>Inspections - Longhoughton Playing Field/Footpath: CG confirmed all ok. Ken Muers now undertaking regular monthly maintenance of the footpath to remove weeds for an hour during May-September at a cost of £20 per visit.</p>	
7.	<p>Matters Arising</p> <p>a) Fixed Asset Check: ET to circulate details when ready.</p> <p>b) PC Website/Email Address: ET and HH to meet with Chris Thomas to finalise decision on the move to a gov.uk domain. No response had been received from Rennington PC or NALC when requesting assistance but a further email had been received from NALC advising a decision on website was now urgently required.</p> <p>c) Chair's Matters Arising Paper (AH had been previously circulated a report)</p> <p>Safeguarding Policy: Outstanding – AH to progress.</p> <p>Boulmer Car Park Planning Application: NCC Highways yet to submit a revised application to includes the missing information highlighted by planning. ET to contact NCC Highways to enquire when they expect the planning application to be complete.</p> <p>Boulmer Beach Car Park: NCC have circulated papers to confirm they are to take over the car park and have accepted the PC's request that the charging period should be from 9.00am to 5.00pm to enable locals to use the car park for dog walking, etc. ET to contact NCC Highways to enquire when they expect the handover to be complete.</p> <p>Pondfield: N'land Estates confirmed the field has been let and is being grazed. 5 parkland trees will be planted within the field over the coming planting season.</p> <p>Complaint from Val Hodgson: AH met the Hodgsons on 18/8/25. A request for NCC speed strips has been made. LR to walk the pavements on either side of the B1339 and report back to the PC on their condition. AH to walk the permissive path to the Burnmouth to check accessibility. PM to help Val Hodgson progress her application to join Speedwatch. AH to contact AMG to enquire about providing flu- jabs at LCSCT.</p> <p>Boulmer Wildflower Meadow: A huge thanks to Howick Estates for all their help and assistance this year – the weather did not help! AH has written thanks to Marcus the Head Gardener. ET to send the PC's thanks to David Baring.</p> <p>Vacancy on Quarries Liaison Group: The PC received two applicants, Rob Wildsmith and Ella Brown. It was agreed to change the constitution of the Quarries Liaison Group to increase the number of community representatives from 4 to 5. It was also agreed to appoint both Rob Wildsmith and Ella Brown to the Quarries Liaison Group as community representatives. Proposed PM, 2nd MN, all agreed.</p> <p>Football Grant: LCSCT Weekly Friday Kick-About for 11-16yrs – AH confirmed Ballinger Trust has given a grant of £1,984 to cover hire fees/coach, so no grant from the PC is required. The weekly session commenced on 19/9/25.</p> <p>Complaint from Bill Sidgwick re Longbank Farm: It was suggested the PC should support the planning application for 6 new houses at Longbank Farm because the PC is a representative of the residents, who all supported the application. The PC explained that in coming to a decision on any planning application, the PC have to take into account policies contained in the N'land Local Plan and local policies contained in the emerging NDP (established democratically following many consultations). The PC has to abide by these policies unless there is a compelling reason not to do so.</p> <p>Request from Julian Leathart for 2 x 20mph Painted Road Markings: at the top of Boulmer Road close to the North end corner on the Boulmer bound carriageway and also at the other end of the 20mph zone near Springfield. PM to put together a map and Speedwatch data for ET to be sent off with the request to NCC Highways.</p> <p>NALC Coastal Communities Network: A national network of coastal communities in England who experience similar issues eg 2nd homes, holiday lets, house price inflation, lack of employment opportunities, low wage economy, remoteness etc. MN agreed to attend future meetings. AH to share details.</p>	<p>ET</p> <p>ET/HH</p> <p>AH</p> <p>ET</p> <p>ET</p> <p>LR/AH/ PM</p> <p>ET</p> <p>PM/ET</p> <p>AH/MN</p>

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	<p>Emergency Plan for the Parish: Following PC feedback at the August meeting, the report has been discussed with Trustees of LCSCT. An updated report will come back to the PC for further discussion. LR suggested collaboration with RAF Boulmer.</p> <p>National Telecare Campaign: CG attended a meeting on this issue and has flagged to BT a number of issues with on the ground delivery of assistance to elderly residents.</p> <p>Alnwick & Denwick Neighbourhood Plan: The deadline had passed for comment.</p> <p>Longhoughton Community Fete: AH reported the Fete went very well with estimated to be around 500. The format was now a traditional village show with emphasis on attendees being 'actively involved' rather than traditional fairground rides. The budget was just over £3,000 with contributions from the PC £1,000 and £1,700 from the Tyne and Wear Community Foundation. Longhoughton Primary School submitted poetry and paintings for judging in a competition. Lucia Bridgeman, Deputy Lieutenant of Northumberland, Commander Joe Redhead of RAF Boulmer and Matthew Hetherington the Head of Longhoughton Primary School all attended. Over 60 volunteers helped to run the Fete which shows fantastic support for the Fete and the event brought the community together. Sincere and grateful thanks to everyone who helped/volunteered. It was noted a new marquee was purchased (£499.50 for use only for the annual fete). The PC agreed to donate £300 towards this cost. Proposed PM, 2nd MN, all agreed.</p> <p>Longhoughton Wellbeing Walks: walks are every Wednesday, 11.00am from LCSCT Car Park for 1 hour around Longhoughton largely on paved surfaces. The average attendance is 5/6. No charges. AH appealed for more 'walk leaders'.</p> <p>Sport England Active Places: Sport England requested an update on the Old Recreation Ground to establish its present status. This was answered pointing out that the field has not been used for competitive sport or for training since 2009 when all football activities transferred to Westfield Park, the LCSCT and that the NDP has allocated the field to 15 new houses and, a small car park and a recreation area.</p> <p>NCC Call for Sites: The PC to nominate the 3 sites allocated for housing in the NDP.</p> <p>N'land Coast National Landscapes Management Plan: This was discussed at the August PC meeting when it was agreed PB would put together a suggested response. PB's suggested response had been circulated and it was agreed ok for ET to send.</p> <p>NCC Corporate Priorities for next 4 Years: All PC's have been invited to a meeting on 9/10/25 about NCCs priorities over the next 4 years. AH to attend. It was agreed points AH to raise include: protection of front line services, transport, housing, employment opportunities, traffic management and provision of public toilets.</p> <p>NALC AGM: The PC pays an annual subscription to NALC for a variety of services and access to information and advice. NALC AGM will be held on 15/11/25 at 10.00am</p> <p>Community Governance Review (CGR): NCC has given notice that they are to conduct a CGR. This takes place every 10-15 years to review PCs to see if they require changes and are viable. The full consultation will take place between February-September 2026, but the PC are being invited to submit a Pre-Consultation Questionnaire. It was agreed the PC is happy with: the current number of Parish Councillors (10); the current warding arrangement (3 wards: Longhoughton, Boulmer and Howick); the current Grouping of Parishes (ie not grouped); the Parish Boundary.</p> <p>Gifts for Residents at Christmas: It was agreed the PC would continue to give a £100 grant to give a gift to residents at Christmas who are unwell, bereaved, or suffer from other life changing issues. Proposed CG, 2nd PM, all agreed.</p>	<p>LR/AH</p> <p>CG</p> <p>ET</p> <p>AH</p> <p>ET</p> <p>AH</p> <p>ET</p> <p>ET</p>
<p>8.</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 sent a draft report for PC and NCC review/comment. Jo-Anne Garrick helped the PC with their feedback. NCC now responsible for updating the plan and then it goes to referendum.</p> <p>b) Longhoughton Update: CG advised that the parking issues continue at Lacey</p>	

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	<p>Street. It was noted that the PC had done as much as was possible with their remit. It was hoped as the NDP is finalised, the PC could then progress the request for a car park on the Playing Field to ease the issue.</p> <p>Boulmer Update: No further updates to be shared.</p> <p>Howick Update: Ian Knox advised he would be contacting all residents to introduce himself and follow-up that up again when delivering the newsletter.</p> <p>c) Priorities Paper/PC Ways of Working: It was agreed to postpone to September.</p> <p>d) RAF Boulmer Project Works: LR advised contractors will soon begin work on 2 major building projects at RAF Boulmer: to provide new living and working accommodation across both the Main Site and Operations Site with construction expected to continue into 2027. RAF Boulmer will work closely with contractors to minimise disruption. Residents may notice an increase in construction traffic, particularly through the villages of Lesbury and Longhoughton. A request has been made to avoid peak times. LR is to be the main point of contact.</p>	
<p>9.</p>	<p>Correspondence</p> <p>a) Tony Burton – Longhoughton/Boulmer/Howick Neighbourhood Plan - Draft Examination Report (see 8a) above)</p> <p>b) NCC Highways – 2026/27 LTP– Top 3 Priorities – ET confirmed NCC had agreed to an extension to the deadline for submission after the October PC meeting to enable AH/PB to attend the meeting on 29/9/25 and report back to the PC on 20/10/25.</p> <p>c) NCC Highways – Beach View Car Park, Boulmer – noted (see 7c) above)</p> <p>d) NCC – Budget and Corporate Priorities Meeting – 9/10/25 – noted (see 7c) above)</p> <p>e) Sport England Active Places – 1039067Village Playing Field – noted (see 7c) above)</p> <p>f) Northumbria Police – FOI Request – B1339 Collisions – noted 3 collisions in the last 10 years (FOI request re Val Hodgson complaint - see 7c) above)</p> <p>g) Bill Sidgwick – Longbank Farm Steading Planning Application – see 7c) above</p> <p>h) Julian Leathart – Request for 20mph painted road markings – see 7c) above</p> <p>i) NCC – Thriving Together Newsletter Aug #1 and #2 - noted</p> <p>j) NALC Update August and September - noted</p> <p>k) NALC Coastal Communities Network Meeting – 23/9/25 – see 7c) above</p> <p>l) Paul Bradley – enquiry re Speedwatch for Whittingham PC – PM to respond</p> <p>m) NCC Polling District & Polling Places Review – no action required as the PC was happy with LCSCCT being used as the Polling Station in Longhoughton, Howick Village Hall in Howick and Boulmer Memorial Hall in Boulmer.</p> <p>n) NCC – North N’land Community Partnership meeting – 25.9.25 - noted</p>	<p>AH/PB</p> <p>PM</p>
<p>10.</p>	<p>Parish Financial Matters:</p> <p>a) Mazars – Notice of Conclusion of Audit YE 31 March 2025/Annual Governance Statement 2025. ET confirmed the audit has been concluded and the statement of accounts are published on the PC website (the documents are a scan and therefore not fully compliant with the Accessibility Regulations which require a physical "wet ink" signature). The full return is also available by contacting the Parish Clerk.</p> <p>b) NCC (Precept) - £14,739 - CREDIT</p> <p>c) SLCC (Annual Subs) - £150 - agreed</p> <p>d) Adrian Hinchcliffe (Boulmer Car Park Repairs) - £35.86 - agreed</p> <p>e) Clerk (Sept Wages) - £548.39 - agreed</p> <p>f) HMRC (Sept £129.80 PAYE and £34.79 Employers NI) - £164.59 - agreed</p> <p>g) Greenfingers (Boulmer Common Grass Cutting) - £108 - agreed</p> <p>h) Ken Muers (Longhoughton Playing Field Path) - £20 - agreed</p> <p>i) LCSCCT (Room Hire AMG prescriptions) - £64 – agreed</p> <p>j) N’land Estates (Playing Field Half Yearly Rent) - £65 – agreed</p> <p>k) LCSCCT (Village Hall Insurance) - £1,033.70 – agreed</p> <p>l) Shield & Morrison (April/June/Aug Newsletter & Annual Report) - £1,005.00 – agreed</p>	

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	m)ICO (GDPR Annual Fee) - £52 - agreed	
11.	Plans: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 – the PC gave a neutral response to the planning application but raised concerns about it being a large development outside the village, where additional needs of environmental and pedestrian amelioration have not been met and where no affordable housing had been included. 	
12.	Matters for Information/Next Agenda: None received	
13.	Date of Next Meeting: 7.30pm - Monday 20 October – LCSCT Westfield Park	ALL

The meeting ended at 9.30pm.

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