

# Boulmer Howick & Longhoughton

## NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN APPROVED

Residents emphatically approved the Longhoughton, Boulmer and Howick Neighbourhood Plan with 83% of those voting in favour of the plan at the referendum on Thursday 22 January. After eight years in the making, this is a very positive result and reflects the many consultations that have taken place with residents. The Plan is now owned by the Community. The full result is as follows:

The count of votes took place at the Longhoughton Community and Sports Centre after 10.00pm on 22.01.26. The result of votes cast at Boulmer, Howick and Longhoughton was:

Voting **YES** in favour of the plan: **244** (83.28%)

Voting **NO** against the plan: **49** (16.72%)

In total 293 votes were cast, which is 22.29% of the electorate.

The Plan is therefore approved and will now move to the next stage of implementation, which is adoption by the Northumberland County Council.



Parish Council officials Adrian Hinchcliffe (Chair) and Peter Bromley (Vice Chair) holding the Declaration of the Count at Longhoughton Community Centre at 10.45pm on referendum day.



The Parish Council is grateful to everyone who voted, especially those who turned out on the day when the weather was absolutely awful. The turnout at 22.29% compares well with other parishes where the attendance has been between 14% and 55%.

The next stage is to begin implementing the many changes that follow the Plan and these will commence at the next Parish Council meeting on 16 February 2026.

A huge thanks to everyone involved in putting together the Neighbourhood Plan including the Steering Group, Parish Council, officers of the County Council, Jo-Anne Garrick, other consultees and all the residents who have responded to our consultations and attended drop-in events. A huge task now completed.



### CONTACT YOUR COUNCILLOR

#### Boulmer Ward

Adrian Hinchcliffe (Chair)  
01665 572888

#### One vacancy

#### Howick Ward

Ian Knox 01665 572939  
Mary Calam 07740 435069

#### Longhoughton Ward

Peter Bromley 01665 577071  
(Vice Chair)  
Carole Green 01665 572610  
Hannah Horsley 07733 338487  
Michael Nichols 07771611332  
Laura Rowberry 03001 658427  
Peter McEwen 01665 572735

#### RAF Liaison

Laura Rowberry 03001 658427

#### County Councillor

Wendy Pattison 07779983072  
wendy.pattison@northumberland.gov.uk

#### Parish Clerk

Elizabeth Taylor 01665 830040  
parishclerk@hotmail.com  
Please contact the Clerk about the parish councillor vacancies.

#### Websites

<https://longhoughton-pc.gov.uk>  
[www.longhoughtonndp.co.uk](http://www.longhoughtonndp.co.uk)

#### Newsletter Editors

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Newsworthy items for the next edition before the **deadline on 13 March**, please.

Disclaimer: The Boulmer, Howick and Longhoughton Community Newsletter is published by Longhoughton Parish Council. The views expressed represent the understanding of the editors or of any named person contributing to the newsletter.

## PARISH COUNCIL NEWS



Presentation of the crystal trophy to the Trustees. From left to right: Jeremy Pickard, Vanessa Chapman, Dr Caroline Pryer, Adrian Hinchcliffe and Stewart Barrett.



The presentation included the Lord Lieutenant of Northumberland, Trustees and guests.

### LONGHOUGHTON COMMUNITY AND SPORTS CENTRE TRUST PRESENTATION OF THE KING'S AWARD FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE

The Trustees and 144 volunteers of the Longhoughton Community and Sports Centre Trust have been awarded the King's Award for Voluntary Service to recognise the voluntary work that they do in running and supporting the Community and Sports Centre. The award is equivalent to an MBE but for an organisation. The presentation ceremony took place on Tuesday 16 December 2025 at the Longhoughton Community and Sports Centre when Dr Caroline Pryer, His Majesty's Lord Lieutenant of Northumberland, presented a crystal trophy to Jeremy Pickard, Chair of Trustees. The presentation was attended by representatives of the Centre's key partners along with 70 volunteers and members of the Longhoughton community. Thirty other special guests attended including Deputy Lieutenants Lucia Bridgeman, Julie Cordon and Keith Montgomery, and George Farr, High Sheriff of Northumberland.

### PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

The next meetings of Longhoughton Parish Council are as follows:  
Monday **16 February** at 7.30pm at Longhoughton Community and Sports Centre.  
Monday **16 March** at 7.30pm at Howick Village Hall.



Stewart Barrett the Vice Chair of the Community and Sports Centre welcoming Dr Caroline Pryer, His Majesty's Lord Lieutenant of Northumberland, the other guests and volunteers.

### PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE

Due to changes requested by the Government the Parish Council is changing its website. The new website address is <https://longhoughton-pc.gov.uk> and is shown on the front of this newsletter. The Neighbourhood Plan website [www.longhoughtonndp](http://www.longhoughtonndp) will remain.

### PRESCRIPTION PICK UP

Repeat prescriptions can be picked up at the Longhoughton Community and Sports Centre (Westfield Park) on Tuesdays and Thursday between 1.00pm and 2.00pm. The service operates from the Wellbeing Room. Please take advantage of this service for it saves going to either Alnwick or Embleton. When ordering your repeat prescription, please ask to be able to pick it up at Longhoughton.

## PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

### WELLBEING WALKS

The walks take place every Wednesday starting from the car park of the Community and Sports Centre at 11.00pm. Over the last year the number on each walk has averaged six and we do welcome more people. The walks are on hard surface around Longhoughton, led by experienced leaders and for about one hour. We go at the speed of the slowest. It is a good way to start getting fit and fulfilling those New Year resolutions. No special footwear needed. Come give us a try!



The nights are officially drawing out, but before we get too excited and get the shorts out again, we should remember that we are still in the depths of winter. The freezing temperatures, short hours of daylight and powerful storms make this the hardest time of year for our wildlife to survive, and our shorebirds have it tougher than most!

While they are exceptionally hardy birds there is little to no cover for them along the shore, and they bear the brunt of the worst of the winter weather and burn through lots of energy just to keep warm. So please keep a look out for where birds might be feeding or roosting on the beach and give them space, so they won't be wasting precious energy flying away from us. If you're interested in finding out more about these amazing birds why not join us on one of our free shorebirds for beginners events coming up soon? Head to our website to book a spot!

## LONGHOUGHTON NEWS

### COMMUNITY LUNCH

We invite you to come along and try the Community Lunch on the last Wednesday of each month and held at the Longhoughton Community and Sports Centre. We meet at 12 noon to have a very sociable time together. It's a time to have a good chat and enjoy making friends while enjoying a tasty two-course meal followed by tea or coffee for just £5.

Want to know more about Northumberland's incredible coastal wildlife?



Join us for a free guided walk or bird watch at various locations along the coast

JAN 31	BEADNELL Saturday 31 <sup>st</sup> January 10am - 12pm	FEB 10	STAG ROCK Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> February 10am - 12pm
FEB 17	NEWBIGGIN Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> February 10am - 12pm	FEB 21	BOULMER Saturday 21 <sup>st</sup> February 1 - 3pm
FEB 25	COQUET ESTUARY DOG WALK Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> February 10am - 12pm	MAR 3	BEADNELL Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> March 10am - 12pm
MAR 14	NEWTON BY THE SEA Saturday 14 <sup>th</sup> March 10am - 1pm	MAR 26	NEWBIGGIN Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> March 10am - 12pm
APR 9	COQUET ESTUARY Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> April 10am - 12pm		

For full details, scan the QR code or visit [www.spaceforshorebirds.co.uk/upcoming-events](http://www.spaceforshorebirds.co.uk/upcoming-events)



Our next lunch is Wednesday 25 February 2026. If you are able to join us please phone Pat Ellis on 01665 577973 to book your place. Transport can usually be arranged where necessary. We look forward to seeing you.

### WI: 'The best laid plans...'

'The best laid plans of mice and men!' attributed to Robert Burns in his poem 'To a Mouse' in 1786 certainly came true for the WI in January. We had planned to line dance our way into 2026 at our first meeting but the weather had other ideas! This has been rescheduled for Tuesday 3 March.

So far in January we have been Ten Pin Bowling at Cramlington, gone to the pantomime *Aladdin* at the Alnwick Playhouse and had coffee at the Bailiffgate Hotel.

In February our meeting on the Tuesday 3 February will see more creativity as we design and make glass coasters. On the 8th we will support the Community Gardeners by providing refreshments. We plan to visit the Snowdrop Walk at Howick Gardens and go to the Lindisfarne Centre for our monthly coffee

morning.

As you can see, a far cry from making jam and singing *Jerusalem*! So whatever your plans are for 2026 do consider joining us for our activities. Please contact Jayne Knight 07341 446665 for more details. We wish you well for 2026, and Happy New Year from all at the WI.



## **COMPANY B At the Heart of Our Community**

We do not usually include commercial promotions in this newsletter but in the case of Company B they do provide a very welcome service for people in the community who are in difficulty, providing for their daily needs, for whatever reason.

Company B is at the heart of our village community. Alongside their friendly café space, they also provide a range of freshly prepared meals and services designed to support local residents, families, and those who simply enjoy wholesome, home cooked food.

One of their most valued services is the meals for the community, offering delicious, nutritious dishes, six days a week from Tuesday until Sunday including roast dinners. It's ideal for anyone who may find it difficult to cook, is recovering from illness, or simply appreciates the convenience of a hot meal.

Customers are welcome to collect, or if you are unable to collect and live in the village, they can arrange delivery. Just call ahead and they will have everything ready for you. All meals need to be pre-ordered.

Company B believes food brings people together. Pop in, give them a call, or follow them on social media to see what's cooking this week. We are privileged to have Company B in our midst.

Their address is 51a NE Road, Longhoughton, NE66 3JR. Telephone 07953 774844.

## **SEABANKS: New Exciting Products**

Along the seabanks between Alnmouth and Warkworth new products have arisen from the planting of rapeseed, potatoes and wheat beans. Buston Banks Farm has developed these crops into new products which are now available from their Farm Shop. They consist of rapeseed oil, fruit vinegars, crisps and other products that are all available and locally grown.

Karen Park of Buston Banks Farm gave a talk to The Longhoughton Thursday Together Session on 22 January 2026 on how the farm has diversified into these important local products over the last five years. Karen said that rapeseed oil is considered to be a healthy oil because it is low in saturated fatty acids and high in monounsaturated fatty acids and polyunsaturated fatty acids, including omega 3, 6 and 9 fatty acids.

Karen went on to explain how to bake with her rapeseed oil and handed out recipe sheets. Her range of artisan products are available at the Buston Barns Farm shop and at the Running Fox.



## **COLIN AND ROSEMARY GRAY Super Coast Care volunteers**

Colin and Rosemary Gray of Longhoughton have been members of Coast Care (now National Landscape Conservation Team) from its inception. They attended their 200th beach clean in December 2025 and in celebration were presented with a photo book of gratitude to acknowledge their commitment.

Rosemary responded, "We have loved our time on the beaches over the years. The people

we have met, friends made and being part of doing good for our wonderful coast. Every time I pick up the smallest bit of litter it makes me feel I am doing good for some little bird or sea creature. It's great to meet like-minded people and we have made so many new young friends. It was the best thing we ever did to join Coast Care and the Conservation Team. Let's hope we can do a few more and fill the blank pages in our album". Our sincere thanks go to Rosemary and Colin.

## LONGHOUGHTON QUARRY PLANNING APPLICATION

A Public Meeting was held on 4 December 2025 and attended by over 50 residents. The meeting was also attended by representatives of the proposer of the Planning Application and the Quarry Manager. The applicants made a presentation on the application and this was followed by a general discussion on the application at which residents were able to express their views and ask questions. Notes of what was said were taken. Jo-anne Garrick, appointed by the Parish Council to help compile a response to the application, was present.

Subsequent to the meeting Jo-Anne produced a draft response. This was considered and updated by the Chair and Vice Chair. It was subsequently circulated to all Parish Councillors and members of the Quarries Liaison Group for consideration. A small number of comments were received and the draft was updated to reflect these comments. After a final check the response was sent off to the County Council on 5 January 2026 which was well within the time limit.

## MGL GROUP SUPPORT FOR COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Enormous thanks are due to the MGL Group (who operate Longhoughton Quarry) for the support they gave to the community over the Christmas period. They financially supported the Children's Christmas Party, the Christmas Community Lunch, the Thursday Together Christmas buffet and they gave party packs for the Children's party and the Community Lunch. This is the fourth year in which MGL Group has supported the community and we are very grateful for their support.



## ST JOHN AMBULANCE INITIATIVE

In the Autumn of 2025 St John Ambulance launched an initiative to teach life-saving skills to villagers with the aim of having a trained life saver on each street. Their publicity says that they will cover the following:

- CPR with a defibrillator
- Choking
- Chest Pain
- Seizures
- Bleeding and wound care

This is a great idea and Longhoughton Parish Council are fully behind the initiative. Longhoughton was the village selected for the trial and the group distributed flyers to all homes in Longhoughton at the beginning of December to make residents aware of the offer of free training.

Training will take place at the Longhoughton Community and Sports Centre during the first two weeks in February.



Two elves assisted Santa at the Children's Party



Residents enjoying the 2025 Christmas Lunch

## COMMUNITY GARDENERS

Community Events: **Save the Dates**

**8 February 10-12pm** We are hedge planting at the Orchard, with soup and cake afterwards, served by the WI. Please come along with fork/spade and gloves to help heel in the trees.

**26 Feb LCG Thursday Together Presentation.** Come and see what we're all about!

**19 April 1-3pm is the official opening of our orchard.** Join us for the official ribbon-cutting (ribbon not included).

As we zoom through January, we're pausing to celebrate a blooming marvellous year and looking back at what Longhoughton Community Gardeners achieved in 2025. We ended 2024 clearing an area of neglected grassland in Westfield Park and, in Feb 2025, we planted 10 apple trees - hey presto - Longhoughton has an orchard. First envisaged in February 2024, it's been so rewarding to go from an idea to fruition in just 12 months.

In spring we began to organise regular gardening sessions in several untended areas around the village - by the end of the year our volunteers clocked up a whopping 495 hours of work improving some of Longhoughton's overgrown spaces.

In August we installed a shed at the Community Centre followed by an archway at the entrance to our orchard (huge thanks to Longhoughton Parish Council for the funding), 2 benches, 2 picnic benches, 4 raised beds, nesting boxes and even a luxury hedgehog house. That's a shed-load of progress!

Our October bulb blitz saw 6,000 bulbs planted - that brings our total to more than 16,000 bulbs planted around the village.

Want to join us? Whether you're a master pruner or just want to learn which end of the trowel is which, we'd love to have you. Come help us make Longhoughton lovelier!

Find us on Facebook and Instagram: @longhoughtonc

Email us: [longhoughtonc@gmail.com](mailto:longhoughtonc@gmail.com)



## COMMUNITY FETE (Feast)

The Organising Committee of twelve residents met on 12 January 2026 to make decisions about the 2026 Fete which will be held on Saturday 11 July 2026 at the Longhoughton Community and Sports Centre. The Committee want to build on the success of the 2025 event, especially the 'Village Show' section showing products produced by residents. The Longhoughton Heritage Group had unearthed evidence to show that up to the 1960s the annual show carried the title of 'Longhoughton Feast'. The Committee thought that it would



be a good idea to adopt this traditional title rather than 'Fete' and so the decision was taken to call it the 'Longhoughton Feast'. Much discussion took place on the need for more space for the Village Show and possibility of a further marquee. It was considered important to continue the tradition of having most activities free of charge and no entrance fee. The Armed Forces Veterans Motor Cycle Group had already agreed to attend and there is the possibility of a classic Car Show. The traditional children's races will also take place along with art and poems competitions.

## LONGHOUGHTON COMMUNITY AND SPORTS CENTRE

### Regular Activities

What is on at the Community Centre with contact details:

- |           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Monday    | AM Monday Matters - <a href="mailto:Liz Wood lizwood1950@btinternet.com">Liz Wood lizwood1950@btinternet.com</a><br>PM Pins and Needles - <a href="mailto:Jenny Cant jennet.cant@gmail.com">Jenny Cant jennet.cant@gmail.com</a><br>Evening. Film Club - Joanna Davies. <a href="#">Longhoughton Film Club Facebook</a>  |
| Tuesday   | PM Prescription pick-up 1.00pm - 2.00pm.<br>Evening. Dancercise Sophie Hastings <a href="mailto:fusionfitnessbysophie@gmail.com">fusionfitnessbysophie@gmail.com</a>   |
| Wednesday | AM Yoga Stretch. Deb Swift. <a href="mailto:info@debyoga.co.uk">info@debyoga.co.uk</a><br>AM Wellbeing Walk (11.00am) <a href="mailto:adrian.hinchcliffe@btopenworld.com">adrian.hinchcliffe@btopenworld.com</a><br>PM Community Lunch (last Wednesday in the month)<br>PM Indoor Bowling. Sheila Abercrombie 2.00pm – 4.00pm.<br>Evening. Scouts. Mike Keith. |
| Thursday  | Thursday Together 11.30am to 1.00pm<br>PM Prescription Pick-up 1.00pm to 2.00pm.   |
| Friday    | PM 11 to 16 Year Old Kick-about. 5.00pm to 6.00pm.   |

### Thursday Together Programme

- |          |   |
|----------|---|
| 05.02.26 | An update on Scams. Dale Bousted of Citizens Advice Northumberland. |
| 12.02.26 | The Camino Frances. A 200km walk in Spain. Andrew Willmott.         |
| 19.02.26 | The Howick Kneeler Project. Helen Cooper                            |
| 26.02.26 | Longhoughton Community Gardeners. Plans for the future.             |
| 05.03.26 | The Lighter side of the law. Ian Knox.                              |
| 12.03.26 | The Story of the Bathing House. Jen Teulon                          |
| 19.03.26 | Cycle Camping in Eire. Adrian Hinchcliffe                           |
| 26.03.26 | Longhoughton Heritage Group. Stories of the history of Longhoughton |

**A light lunch included with all the above, at no charge.**

### Film Club

These are the films for February & March  
2 Feb : the night of the Hunter  
9 Feb: Butch Cassidy & the Sundance Kid  
16 Feb: Young Frankenstein  
23 Feb: Tootsie

2 Mar: Rain Man  
9 Mar: The Artist  
16 Mar: Walkabout  
23 Mar: Joyeux Noel  
30Mar: Glengarry Glen Ros

## BOULMER NEWS

### SEALS: What to do if you find seals on the beach

All seals haul out onto land to rest so most of the time they are simply sleeping and digesting their food. These seals should be left alone, undisturbed.

Sometimes they are injured, sick or orphaned and again should not be approached, disturbed or encouraged back into the water. Loose dogs should be recalled and put on a lead to protect both dogs and the seal and to prevent sharing the sickness. It is not unusual for a seal to have intestinal worms or lugworms. If you are concerned a seal could be sick or injured or orphaned, there is a charity called British Marine Life Rescue who can help. They

are available 24/7 and 365 days a year.

Some useful numbers:

British Divers Marine Life Rescue: 01825 765546

RSPCA: 0300 123 4999

Dead Seals: Northumberland County Council  
0345 600 6400

### PROPOSED CAR PARK NEXT TO THE MEMORIAL HALL

The County Council has asked for a meeting on this. Members of the Parish Council and Boulmer Memorial Hall are arranging to meet them.

### BOULMER MEMORIAL HALL

For bookings please contact Nancy Robinson by email on [tommum@icloud.com](mailto:tommum@icloud.com) or send a message on the Hall Facebook page.

## HOWICK NEWS



### HOWICK VILLAGE HALL

**Film Club:** Please email John Roper [johnroper1@btinternet.com](mailto:johnroper1@btinternet.com) to join the club mailing list and find out which films are showing and when. Donations only are suggested at £5.00.

**Craft Club:** For details call Audrey Jamieson on 01665 577797.

**Howick WI:** Meets on the first Wednesday of the month at 7pm. Contact Jeanette Archbold on 01665 577384.

**Village Hall booking** Jane Doleman 01665 577801

**Howick Art Group:** We welcome new members. We meet on Monday mornings in Howick Village Hall, 09.45 to approximately 13.15. Our annual subscription at present is £90 which includes rental of the hall, the running of two exhibitions per year (one in the spring, usually over the Early Spring Bank Holiday, and one over the August Bank Holiday), visiting tutors, workshops and refreshments. If you would like to join our group, please contact us via our website at: [www.howickartgroupnorthumberland.com](http://www.howickartgroupnorthumberland.com)

### HOWICK ROAD SURFACE

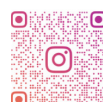
The road through the trees near the turn off to Redstead Farm is still very bad with multiple patching of pot-holes. Ian Knox has pointed out that this road is the main access road to the Howick Estate which is a significant tourist attraction in North Northumberland. This road surface is not in keeping with such a prestigious attraction and the County Council should be re-surfacing this section. The Parish Council has requested these repairs on numerous occasions and will now write to the head of the Highways Department.



Howick Art Group celebrate the work that members do. This painting is titled **Winter** by **Maureen Stephenson**

### LONGHOUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL IS ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Search for Longhoughton Parish Council on Facebook, and Longhoughton pc on Instagram.



PROUDLY  
SUPPORTING  
THOSE WHO  
SERVE.