Longhoughton Parish Council **Meeting**
Monday 19 October 2026

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

Present: Cllrs Hinchcliffe (AH) (Chair), Bromley (Vice Chair) (PB), McEwen (PM) and Rowberry (LR) (Parish Councillor and RAF Representative).

In attendance: County Cllr Wendy Pattison (WP) & 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; NCNL – N'land Coast National Landscape.

Monthly Parish Council Meeting Minutes		**Action**
Members of the Public - Questions: No members of the public were in attendance.		
1.	**Apologies for Absence:** Cllrs Green (CG), Horsley (HH), Knox (IK), Nichols (MN) and Calam (MC).	
2.	**Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 21 September 2026.** MC had requested two amendments to the September minutes, as follows: Boulmer Bait Digging: "Internet research indicates that the bylaw was adopted by NCC and remains in place. However, Craig should approach the NCC legal team for the exact wording and boundary map." Funding for Longhoughton Feast 2027: "If funds permit, PC members were keen to provide £1,500 for the 2027 event, but given the amount, a decision would need to wait until the PC met to consider and agree the 2027-28 budget." Otherwise, the minutes were approved as a correct record.	
3.	**Declarations of Interest:** AH is Secretary and Trustee of LCSCT.	
4.	**County Councillor Wendy Pattison – Northumberland County Council Update** WP had previously circulated a report. **Quiet Lane Status**: WP and ET had both chased County Councillor Mark Mather for a response on this. **Simpler Recycling in Northumberland:** From April 2026, the Government has introduced new simpler Recycling rules across England. These rules mean all councils must collect the same set of recycling materials from all households. NCC is working to introduce these changes as soon as possible. What's changing nationally? Under the new rules, councils must collect a wider range of materials for recycling. This expanded range of materials includes the following that NCC don't currently collect: · plastic pots, tubs and trays · glass bottles and jars · food and drink cartons (e.g. Tetra Pak) · flexible plastics such as plastic bags and wrapping (by March 2027) NCC must also provide a separate weekly food waste collection. Why some councils won't start on 1 April 2026 Many councils, including NCC, will not have the new services in place from day one because of: · insufficient Government funding to fully deliver the changes · national delays in the supply of new refuse vehicles · the need for major upgrades to waste processing facilities · complex planning, procurement and construction timescales How Northumberland is preparing NCC have been planning for Simpler Recycling for several years to create a cost-efficient, environmentally responsible system. In November 2025, Cabinet approved an investment of over £21 million to: · provide new recycling bins	

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· upgrade reception and processing facilities
· make major improvements to our Materials Recovery Facility (MRF)
· prepare for the wider range of recycling materials

These improvements must be completed before new services can start.

When will the new dry recycling service start?

Infrastructure upgrades are now progressing through procurement, planning and construction. NCC expect to begin phased introduction of the new dry recycling service in early 2027. Once final dates are confirmed, NCC will publish full details for residents.

What the new system will look like

General Waste: No change to the current general waste collection service. This will continue to be collected every two weeks.

Recycling: To accommodate the expanded range of materials, collections will be made from 2 separate recycling bins:

Bin 1: Fibre Recycling Bin (New bin)

An additional 240litre wheeled bin with a black body and burgundy lid will be supplied to kerbside households for the separate collection of the following materials:

· paper
· card
· cardboard

Bin 2: Mixed Recycling Bin (Existing bin repurposed)

Your existing recycling bin will remain and be repurposed for the collection of the following materials:

· metal tins and cans
· plastic bottles, pots, tubs and trays
· clean aluminium foil trays and tubes
· empty aerosol cans
· glass bottles and jars
· food and drink cartons
· flexible plastics (March 2027)

Collection pattern: Households will continue to receive a general waste collection once per fortnight and have the fibre recycling bin emptied the following week and then the mixed recycling bin emptied on the following fortnight's recycling collection day so that each recycling bin gets emptied once per month on an alternating 4-week cycle.

Keeping residents informed

These are significant, once in a generation changes to waste and recycling in Northumberland which also include food waste collections starting in SE Northumberland at a later date. NCC are developing a dedicated communications campaign to keep residents updated on:

· when changes will happen
· what the new services include
· which materials go in each bin
· when new bins will be delivered
· where to find further information

More details will be shared with residents once final implementation dates are confirmed.

Digital Switchover: The UK's telephone network is changing. By January 2027, most telephone providers will be moving their customers from old analogue landlines over to new upgraded landline services using digital technology. The switchover is being led by the UK telecommunications industry and services in the UK such as home phones and healthcare devices will be switched over. This may include:

· Home phones (traditional landline)
· Amplified phones (for those with hearing loss)
· Personal telecare products

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	· Fall and motion detectors · Portable healthcare devices such as ECG or oxygen monitors Your telephone provider will contact you to give you a switchover date and to check in and discuss what you need to do to make sure your service isn't affected. If you or someone you know has a telecare safety device, who depends on their landline and/or use a telecare device connected to a phone line such as a fall monitor, lifeline or personal alarm, then please contact the provider of this service to find out how this device will be affected. Vulnerable users are entitled to a backup battery free of charge from their provider if they have critical services running such as telecare/telehealth. You should tell your telephone provider now if you have no other way of making emergency calls and if you have no broadband, internet or mobile phone. Your telephone provider should contact you before the switchover to let you know if you'll be affected. Please contact your telephone provider directly (BT, Virgin, etc) if you have any concerns about the switchover. **Useful links** · Local Government Association Digital phone switchover FAQs. · Local Government Association Digital switchover telecare checklist. · DCMS, UK transition from analogue to digital landlines · Ofcom, Moving landline phones to digital technology: what you need to know. · Which?, Digital Voice and the landline phone switch-off: what it means for you. · Age UK, Changes to landline telephones. **Home Library Service:** delivers items free to your door if you are unable to visit the library yourself, and have no-one to visit on your behalf. There is no charge for borrowing any items. You can choose how many items you borrow - up to 20 at a time. A volunteer will bring the items to your home every 4 weeks, at a time that suits you. Please contact your local library or email mylibrary@northumberland.gov.uk for more information.	
5.	**Inspections - Longhoughton Playing Field/Footpath:** AH reported all ok.	
6.	**Matters Arising** **a) Chair's Matters Arising Paper** (AH had previously circulated a report). **Boulmer Road Junction:** Mark Mather to report. No comments received. **Beach Road - Quiet Lane Status:** Mark Mather to report. No comments received. In addition, it was noted that the Local Access Forum meets on 20/10/26 and the request for Quiet Lane Status was to be taken to this forum by County Councillor Martin Swinbank. **Renewal of Boulmer Timber Stobs:** AH met Steve McKee onsite on 29/9/26, and a quote is now being prepared. The quote is being held up for Northumberland Estates Saw Mill receiving a supply of the appropriate-sized stobs. **Influenza/COVID Vaccinations:** 64 flu vaccinations were given and 27 COVID. AH thanked Ajay Rehan of K-Chem Chemist, Shilbottle. In 2027, AH proposed that the PC again organise the vaccinations, but publicised much earlier so that more people can book. **NHS Mini Health MOT:** Available LCSCT 21/10/26 from 15:30-18:30pm. **Wellbeing Walks:** Taking place each Wednesday starting at 11.00am. The number participating has increased. Please encourage people to attend. **11-16 years Kickabout on Friday Evenings:** Sessions are going well. **Thursday Together:** Another 6 volunteers have come forward to join the team. **Longhoughton Feast:** The final balance carried forward for 2026 was £1,003.99. **Safeguarding Policy:** LR to assist in drafting a policy. **Longhoughton School Green Ownership:** The PC's concern is that it doesn't have an agreement for vehicles to access the parking places. 8 households are affected by this issue, and have been invited to a meeting about the situation to see if an agreement can be reached. A request to HM Land Registry has been made to try to obtain information on the ownership of the northern access route. Once determined, a meeting will be called.	**LR**

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	Gifts at Christmas: CAH/CG will co-ordinate. The PC has agreed a £100 grant and LCSCT a £150 grant. An application to Alnwick Lions has been made for £200. **Boulmer Wildflower Meadow:** As agreed AH has progressed the following: organised mole catcher George Gregory who caught 4 moles (cost £100); AH is meeting 2 representatives of NCNL on 22/10/26 to talk about the maintenance and publicity for the meadow; new seed has been purchased (cost £110.99) and spread on 16 & 17/10/26. **Aggressive Driving in Beach Road, Boulmer:** ET has requested NCC speed strips for Boulmer and also requested a follow-up on speed strips for the far end of Longhoughton. **Joint NCC & Parish Council Conference and AGM of NALC on 8/10/26:** AH attended. **Broken Bin - Tedder Place and at Longhoughton School Green:** Both replaced. **Request for a Fish & Chip Van:** As agreed ET replied to the request for School Green Parking Area from Geoff Robson but signposted to LCSCT as an alternative. **Warning Road Signs for Horses on South End:** ET has referred this request to NCC. **Request for Bus Shelters in Longhoughton:** A resident has requested a shelter at the southbound Seaview bus stop in Longhoughton (a well-used which offers no protection in poor weather). Initial discussions with NCC Highways and NCNL have confirmed no problem with installing a bus stop in the same location and would require no planning permission. NCNL has recommended considering a timber shelter, but the cost of this is circa £7k out with the PC's budget. The request had prompted a wider review of bus stop provision but it was agreed to drop this as it is out with the remit of the PC and no requests for this had been made. WP suggested contacting Chris Curtis in NCC Highways for a more viable suggestion for a bus shelter, within the PC's budget. **Request re Bikes/E-Scooters**: An anonymous request for a gentle generalised message about riding bikes and e scooters at speed along the paths had been received by AH. It was noted that the PC would not usually respond to anonymous complaints or requests but it was agreed that LR to speak with both school, Beacon and Youth Club.	**ET/AH** **LR**
7.	**Reports for Discussion** **a) Longhoughton Update**: **Church Friends Group and Green Routes:** PB reported that things are progressing with the management plan and the group had met to agree priorities and way forward, including the green routes concept. PB to circulate notes in due course. **Howick Update:** No updates. **Boulmer Update:** No updates **b) Development Projects Update:** i. **Discussion with N'land Estates on Housing Site Development:** (AH had previously circulated a report). AH and PB had held a meeting with N'land Estates re the 3 projects, as follows: <u>Former Recreation Ground in Longhoughton</u>: housing site accessed from East Moor; 18 dwellings. 6x 2 bedrooms (affordable) and 12x 3 bedrooms; a large recreation area with some footpaths; a small public car park accessed from East Moor; possible access to Longhoughton Primary School and Lacy Street; affordable properties to be a combination of rent and purchase. <u>Boulmer South</u>: housing site accessed from Bowmere; 18 dwellings. 6x 2 bedrooms (affordable) and 12x 3 bedrooms; occupation principal residence only; affordable properties to be a combination of rent and purchase. <u>Johnnie Johnson Site</u>, Longhoughton: 4x affordable properties on a greenfield site owned by NCC. Dialogue between NCC Housing and CAN required. Other issues discussed included: Longhoughton West Side Greenway (AH/PB to pick up with Julia Robson of N'land Estates) and Longhoughton Quarry (AH/PB requested a clear statement from N'land Estates that the current application will not be succeeded by further applications).	

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	ii. **Climate Change Project:** MC had sent an update to advise communications were being held with David East of Longhoughton Community Gardeners about planting trees. MC also advised Alnwick Playhouse are showing the People's Emergency Briefing again - on 20/11/26. It was agreed the PC to attend the viewing and promote on the PC website/social media. It was agreed the PC to then consider a screening at LCSCT sometime at the end of February to allow for it to be promoted in the PC newsletter (issue date 1/2/27 and deadline for copy 18/1/27). WP suggested reaching out to Conor Edgar in NCC Highways about EV Chargers for LCSCT. MC to pick this up. LR to also reach out regarding EV Chargers for DOI land. iii. **Youth Strategy:** LR confirmed things were progressing with the review of youth provision and that a report and action plan would be circulated. LR also had drafted a Safeguarding Policy, which would be circulated for review at the same time. iv. **Social Media Update:** MC/LR yet to progress further. v. **Longhoughton West Side Greenway:** See item 7a) above. vi. **NCC Housing Consultation:** (AH had previously circulated a report). The Government has updated the National Planning Framework (NPPF). The Northumberland Local Plan and Neighbourhood Plans need to comply with the new policies. The changes include stronger support for sustainable development and greater national influence over local decisions. Local and neighbourhood plans will need to reflect these changes, making settlement boundaries and land allocations particularly important. There is new support for housing near well-connected railway stations, renewable energy and climate action, alongside greater emphasis on good design, health and the natural environment. Growth should prioritise larger, well-connected settlements and areas needing affordable homes, while supporting rural services and providing infrastructure. The NCC Local Plan is scheduled for completion by 14/3/29. Sites will pass through submission, technical assessment and selection for draft allocation. Inclusion in the land availability assessment does not mean a site is approved or allocated; the section states that more than 90% of submitted land will not be needed. Town and Parish Councils can influence the plan by expressing preferences and suggesting alternative sites. However, there is also a shift towards officer-led planning decisions, with certain smaller applications excluded from committee consideration and limited referral opportunities for others. NCC has launched a consultation exercise solely with Town and Parish Councils and have been invited to submit an online response by 9/12/26, outlining preferred housing locations, home types, sizes and tenure, infrastructure needs and design priorities to inform the new Local Plan, using the land availability assessment and supporting guidance. Around 34,000 homes are planned over 20 years, with development expected in most or all parishes, primarily in larger, well-connected settlements but also in rural areas to sustain services and communities. It was noted that the PCs newly adopted NDP was robust and current and had already identified areas where development had been agreed - the PC, residents of the Parish, NCC and landowners had all signed up to this NDP. It was agreed AH to liaise with both David Hall, NCC Planning (responsible for the consultation) also Sarah Branigan, NCC NDP to get clarity on how best to respond. AH to also speak with Jo-Anne Garrick to seek professional Planning advice for the PC. AH to then draft a response to be considered by both Jo-Anne Garrick and the PC.	**ET/LR** **MC/AH** **MC/LR** **LR** **AH**
8.	**Correspondence** a) NCC Town & Parish Council Local Plan Engagement Consultation – see 7vi) above. b) NCC Local Meetings Invitation – 2/11/26 – 6pm-8pm – St James' Church Hall, Alnwick c) NCC Thriving Together Newsletter September #2 and October #1 - noted d) NCC Gambling Licensing Consultation - noted	

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	e) NCC Neighbourhood Planning Team – Briefing Note on National Planning Policy Framework - noted f) NCC Councillor FixMyStreet Webinar – noted g) NCC Northumberland Landscape Character Assessment Update – Invitation to Contribute – AH responded with an extract from the NDP. h) NALC Update – October - noted i) Tyler Ross, TR Player Development – request for grant for support for youth football coaching – LR was to liaise with Tyler Ross to help explore charitable funding options j) Longhoughton Community Gardeners – request to plant 8 small/medium cherry trees – MC liaising with David Hall about possible locations. k) LCSCT – Thank You for Grant for Kids Xmas Party - noted l) Glenys Farrell – Request for Memorial Bench – ET responded to advise the PC is unable to consider requests for memorial benches. m)NCC – Town & Parish Council Engagement – Housing – see 7vi) above. n) NCC Presentations from Town & Parish Council Conference 8/10/26 – noted o) Thriving Together Funding Fair 3/11/26 – LR to attend p) NCC School Admission Transport Consultation – just received, AH to review	**LR** **MC** **LR** **AH**
9.	**Parish Financial Matters:** a) George Gregory (Boulmer Moles) - £100 - PAID b) LCSCT (Room Hire AMG £45 / Police Liaison £12) - £57 - agreed c) Clerk (Sept Wages) - £495.09 - agreed d) HMRC (£116.20 PAYE and £24.65 Employers NI) - £140.85 - agreed e) Northumberland Accountants (Payroll) – £86.40 - agreed f) Adrian Hinchcliffe (Boston Seeds - Boulmer Wildflower Meadow) - £110.99 – agreed g) Clerk (HM Land Registry Search Fee re Longhoughton School Green) - £8 - agreed	
10.	**Plans**: a) 26/03244/FUL – 1st floor balcony extension – 8 Longbank Farm Steading, Longhoughton, NE66 3AP – objection – the proposal is out of place with the local built environment; balconies are not a feature of traditional local architecture and design of properties must be consistent with the NDP. The proposed balcony is obtrusive, appears to be an add-on rather than part of the integrated design and is far too close to the boundary of the property. b) 26/03409/FUL - single storey extension, external landscape and new highways opening onto drive - Moor House, Denwick, NE66 3RG – no objections.	
11.	**Matters for Information/Next Agenda:** • It was agreed to add as an agenda item for November a further grant of dispensation and leave of absence for Hannah Horsley due to continued ill health. • ET flagged the Fixed Asset check that had been circulated to all PC – this will be an agenda item for November.	**ET** **ALL**
12.	**Date of Next Meeting**: 7.30pm Monday 16 November 2026 - LCSCT.	**ALL**

The meeting ended at 9.20pm.

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