This bulletin is to update Boulmer residents on various initiatives and proposals that are taking place and is issued by the three Parish Councillors for Boulmer: Ruth Cook, Adrian Hinchcliffe and Hazel Campbell. Boulmer is a Ward of Longhoughton Parish Council.

1 PUBLIC MEETING HELD 05.07.17
It was good to see 35 residents present at the Public Meeting on 05.07.17 to discuss important issues relating to the future of Boulmer. Those present were divided around three tables and each table was asked to debate and comment on some key issues. Views and opinions were recorded and participants were asked to complete post it notes to add to their views.

We promised to put together all the views received in a report that will be distributed to each household. Residents will be asked if they wish to comment on the report and will be able to send in any comments. Once all comments are in we will produce a final report and a suggested Action Plan and all residents will be invited to a further meeting for them to express any final views before the Action Plan is implemented.

STEERING GROUP
At the meeting we did say that we would like to form a Steering Group to be involved in compiling the reports and the Action Plan. We envisage a Group of six with three residents and the three Parish Councillors. We expect about four meetings spread over a few weeks. If you are interested will you please pass your name to the Parish Clerk, Elizabeth Taylor Tel. 07702 502390 or email parishclerk@hotmail.com

2 BOULMER MEADOW IS ‘HIGHLY COMMENDED’ IN THE LOVE NORTHUMBERLAND AWARDS
The Boulmer Meadow was ‘Highly Commended’ in the Love Northumberland Awards that took place at Alnwick Garden on 05.07.17. John Grundy the local historian and television personality commented that the scheme saved an un-loved piece of land from car parking and erosion by vehicles. He said that the meadow was protected by wooden stobs and stone from the local quarry. Mr Grundy said that the volunteers involved had gone about the task in the right way and the environmental benefit would be realised in the future but it would take a few years to develop. He also said that the Meadow was a vast area to be taken on by volunteers. A framed certificate and a £50 cheque was presented by the Duchess of Northumberland to representatives of the project and the Parish Council. Many thanks to all the volunteers involved and to the AONB for the funding and advice.

3 HONESTY BOX IN BOULMER CAR PARK
Last month we reported on the plans for the honesty box in Boulmer car park and invited any opinions or comments. The steel box has now been purchased. Does anyone have any further ideas or comment on this please? To build the stone cairn we need the services of a stonemason. Is anyone willing to help? Please contact Adrian Hinchcliffe.

4 NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
The next Longhoughton Parish Council meeting will be held on Monday 17th July 2017 commencing at 7.30pm at Boulmer Village Hall. The first 15 minutes is devoted to questions from any residents.
5 RAGWORT PULLING – VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
Ragwort has been growing on the Village Green, the Meadow and the remainder of the area leased by the Parish Council. Landowners have a duty to remove it from their land. It has to be dug up and not just cut. Three volunteers have removed the plant from the Meadow and the land to the south but the Village Green is still to clear. We are looking for new volunteers to take on this task. Just a few hours are needed please.

6 GRASS CUTTING
The Village Green will be cut in early August to avoid disturbing ground nesting birds. The Meadow will be cut and the cut grass collected in late August or early September. Next year the Village Green will be cut in late April with two further cuts between June and October.

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The Boulmer Bulletin is published by the Parish Councillors for the Boulmer Ward of Longhoughton Parish Council. The purpose of the Bulletin is to keep the residents of Boulmer up to date with Parish Council matters that affect Boulmer. The views expressed represent the collective understanding and views of the Boulmer Councillors.