

## **Longhorsley Parish Council Meeting – 14.11.18 – The Church Room – 7.00pm**

### **Present**

Cllrs: I Elliott (Chairman)  
P Brannan  
P Ford  
K Foreman  
T Lowrie (Vice - Chairman)  
D Pringle

County Cllr G Sanderson (left at 7.10pm)

Clerk G Turner

W Gunn (Village Maintenance).

PC Teasdale (7.10 to 7.20 pm)

3 Parishioners

1. **Apologies for Absence** – Councillor V Pagan
2. **Minutes** of the Parish Council Meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> October, 2018 (which had been previously circulated) were approved, and duly signed.
3. **Declaration of Interests** – none.
4. **Date of Next Meeting(s)** – It was agreed that the dates of the next meetings would be 12<sup>th</sup> December, 2018 and 16<sup>th</sup> January, 2019.
5. **County Matters**

County Councillor G Sanderson gave the following update:

- NCC has issued Precept letter and first version of the taxbase for 2019/20.
- NCC has issued a letter to all parishes relating to Car Parking issues – more car parking spaces are to be built in main towns and seaside areas. However, charges will be applied at tourist and train station car parks to help fund the additional spaces.
- 6 new gritters and a paving machine have been added to the NCC fleet.
- NCC has attracted >£7m government funding towards road repairs, resurfacing etc.
- A new anti-littering campaign has been launched.
- Local Transport Plan 2019/20 – the LTP has now been approved and hopefully the requested pedestrian crossing at Reivers Gate and the extension of the 30-mph zone will be included.
- The East Road micro-surface and carriageway painting works will also go ahead in 2019/20.

County Cllr Sanderson left at this point of the meeting (7.10 pm)

## 6. Update from PC Andrea Teasdale

PC Teasdale gave the following update:

- Residents were reminded that mud and leaves on local roads can make the surface more slippery, therefore extra care and attention was required when driving and walking.
- A break-in had been reported at Normandy Terrace where a hammer was stolen and a window broken.
- Some stolen property has been retrieved from a property in Drummonds Close and she is liaising with Karbon Homes.
- Poachers continue to cause problems in the vicinity – “stingers” have been deployed in order to stop suspects in cars.
- Several scam telephone calls are doing the rounds – members of the public are advised never to give out personal information and bank details,

PC Teasdale left at this point of the meeting (7.20 pm)

## 7. Finance

**7.1 Authorisation of Payments** – Members considered and approved the Authorisation of Payments list to 14<sup>th</sup> November, 2018, totalling £8,039.02.

**7.2 Budget 2019/20** – Members received the second draft of the standstill budget statements, which included the updated taxbase including NCC’s revision to the collection rate. Another revised taxbase will be issued mid-November which will include the proposed changes to NCC’s Benefit Scheme. The Clerk sought advice from NALC as to whether or not a council could set a precept A should the taxbase be approved or precept B if it is not approved. It was confirmed that this would be appropriate as NCC will approve the taxbase mid-January after most councils have had their council meeting to set the precept.

**7.3 Budget Monitoring 2018/19** – Members considered and received the statements to end of October, including petty cash and bank reconciliations.

## 8. Routine Items for Review

### 8.1a) Review of Planning Applications:

18/03287/FUL re Rear and side extensions at Freestones, West Road – Members had no objections to this application.

18/03462/FUL re Demolish agricultural building and erect a new one at Paxton Dene Farm – Members had no objections to this application.

18/03619/FUL re Extension to garden room for additional space at Linden Garden Cottage – Members objected to this application in its present form as it is not an extension but a dwelling.

## **b) Planning Decisions:-**

18/02087/AGTRES re change of use from an agricultural building to a dwelling at Hemmel, South of Fieldhead – NCC REFUSED permission.

18/02389/FUL re demolition of single storey and replace with two storey extension at The Retreat, East Road – NCC GRANTED permission.

18/03037/FUL re erection of detached timber garage and log store at Cote Nook – NCC GRANTED permission.

## **8.2 Moor Management Scheme**

Cllr Pringle provided a verbal report which highlighted the following:

- i. The ponies and sheep are looking in good condition.
- ii. The logs have been removed to the trackside and more are to be removed. The Clerk reported that she had had several enquiries from residents requesting logs. Cllr Pringle agreed to speak to the Log-Man to chase up his donation.
- iii. Cllr Pringle is also investigating holding a heather burn in the near future with Northumberland Fire Rescue. He will source a supply of fire beaters for the exercise.

## **8.3 The Old Church Wood (Barbara's Wood)**

Cllr Ford provided a written report covering:

- i. The strimmer for use on footpaths and tree rows has been collected.
- ii. The two tree care events held on 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> October went very well and 200 tree guards were put onto the trees and a general tidy-up took place. The Clerk to include an article in the next edition of the Tree.
- iii. New guards and trees will be ordered in February in order to comply with our grant terms and conditions.
- iv. An attempt had been made to steal the metal entrance gate, but was foiled by a member of the public.
- v. A teacher from St Helen's school has been to the wood to look at the Health and Safety Risk Assessment.

## **8.4 Village Play Areas –**

- i. Additional quotes have been sought for the MUGA Refurbishment Project in line with grant funding requests. The Crowdfunding Pilot will commence at noon on 19<sup>th</sup> November. Cllrs Brannan and Ford agreed to accompany the Clerk to a pre-meeting of the LEADER at NCC (time and date to be arranged) and the LEADER Board meeting scheduled for 12<sup>th</sup> December in Morpeth.
- ii. The Clerk had also submitted a funding application to the Wingates Community Fund for a grant for the MUGA.
- iii. W Gunn highlighted that the Church View climbing frame netting repairs were still in progress with Playdale and that he is monitoring the climbing frame footings in Adamson Park. The gate to the park is also not closing properly but it was reported that a driver had reversed into a section of the fencing.
- iv. It was reported that children are riding bikes in the MUGA area. The Clerk agreed to erect new signage once the refurbishment has been completed.

## **8.5 Allotments – nothing to report.**

## **8.6 Plants & Flowers – nothing to report.**

**The meeting was adjourned at 8.05 pm to allow parishioners to speak.**

2 Parishioners in attendance spoke about the problems currently being experienced at the MUGA. The Chairman explained that the Council was currently sourcing funding to carry out a refurbishment project, which is very expensive. The Crowdfunding Campaign was highlighted as a means of obtaining funding from both the locality and users of the facility. The Clerk will issue the details of how to donate via Crowdfunding once the campaign goes live.

The issue of dog fouling on the playing field was also raised, and problems were also being encountered by the allotment area. The Clerk was asked to write an article for the next issue of the Tree. It was also agreed that a poster be designed in collaboration with St Helen's First School.

Mr Gunn raised the issue of problems with some of the grit bins around the Village. The Clerk was asked to circulate the location of all grit bins to Mr Gunn.

**No other issues were raised and the meeting recommenced at 8.20 pm**

## **8.7 Village Maintenance Issues**

- i. Some replacement fence posts were needed at the north side of Church View – Northumbria Fencing be asked to replace.
- ii. Maintenance works were being carried out at the Village Hall car park this week.
- iii. A problem of members of the public walking across open-plan gardens in Church View was raised – this is a private matter and the responsibility of the individual.
- iv. The concrete base installed for the litter bin in Reivers Gate has not yet been removed – the Clerk to ask Mr Gunn to carry out this work.
- v. Mr Robinson had contacted the Clerk about some maintenance work required re the flag pole. It was agreed that the Clerk contact the Flag-Man from Morpeth.
- vi. The Clerk had received an email from a resident of Normandy Terrace regarding the problems of the surface. NCC have edged the area in readiness for carriage maintenance works scheduled for later in the year.
- vii. The quotation from Town & Country Tree Surgeons for tree maintenance and traffic measures on the A697 was approved. The Clerk was asked to contact Cllr Sanderson to ask if he would act on behalf in trying to get a response from the Tree Officer.
- viii. It was noted that the ivy on the trees needs cutting back and the Clerk was asked to contact Mr Gunn.
- ix. The Clerk had contacted NCC about the recent incident of fly-tipping when a fridge had been left at the side of the shed in the Village Hall car park. NCC are to remove the item on 15<sup>th</sup> November.

## **8.8 New Website**

Nothing to add at this time.

## **8.9 Longhorsley Tree – The Clerk to write articles covering the dog fouling problems, Crowdfunding and thanks to volunteers at the tree care events.**

## **8.10 Donation Requests – None received.**

## **9 Items Carried Forward**

### **9.1 Housing Developments in the Village**

- a) Reivers Gate/Wilding Place – ongoing.
- b) South Road Development – the Chairman highlighted that surface water drainage at the site would require access through Old Church Wood.
- c) East Road Development – ongoing.
- d) Kirkups Corner – approval was given to register the unspecified land belonging to LPC at a cost of £130.

### **9.2 Neighbourhood Planning**

- i. Cllr Brannan provided members with a copy of a Community Right to Bid form, which he proposed to submit for the Shoulder of Mutton, as agreed by the LNP. Members endorsed this proposal.
- ii. Cllr Brannan gave an update on all of the Community Action Proposals contained within the LNP and highlighted the following:
  - Affordable Housing – Cllr Brannan to provide an article for the Tree and a linked paper for the LPC website both to inform and seek feedback.
  - The Conservation Area – it was agreed to work with NCC to define the character and nature of the area.
  - Transportation – J Chisholm is to produce an updated report.
  - Public Rights of Way (PROW) – the Walking Group be asked to undertake a survey of the PROWs.
  - School Place Provision – no current problems reported and Cllr Brannan is to follow-up with an article for the first Tree publication of 2019.

**9.3 Village Green Issues** – Members received the recent email received from NCC stating that this issue is ongoing.

**9.4 Welcome Letters** – none issued this month.

## **10. Other Agenda Items**

10.1 Members considered the Clerk's report updating the rebranding of the Community Award scheme. It was agreed to reorder the categories in section 2 so that selflessness becomes number 5.

10.2 The Clerk distributed the latest edition of the CPRE newsletter for inspection.

10.3 Members approved the Clerks request to investigate the setting up of a "gov.uk" email address.

## **11. Other Items for Information.**

11.1 Members received the email from NCC regarding S106 Housing Developer Funds – revised process.

11.2 Members received the email from NCC regarding Improvements and Investments in Car Parking Provision.

11.3 Cllr Ford attended the CAN AGM and reported that it had been well attended.

11.4 The Village Christmas Tree will be erected on 1<sup>st</sup> December.

## **12. Any Other Business (arising too late for inclusion on the Agenda)**

- 12.1 An email had been received from NCC Planning Department regarding the recent poor communications issues – and contained a response to Cllr Brannan regarding the planning application for Stephenson’s Garage site.
- 12.2 An email had been received regarding NALCs Training course “Recent Changes in Local Council Procedure” to be held on 28<sup>th</sup> November. The Clerk was asked to attend.
- 12.3 The Clerk was requested to be set up as a contact on the Village Community Facebook page.
- 12.3 A query had been received as to whether or not the Village should have had a beacon on 11<sup>th</sup> November. LPC had been involved in the Ringing of Bells from the Church and the Pele Tower at the official time.
- 12.4 The Clerk was asked to contact Mr Robinson to enquire whether or not he would be setting-up the beacon to mark New Year as he had indicated last year that he was considering retiring from the role.

The meeting closed at 9.15 pm.