

## **Longhorsley Parish Council Meeting – 13.03.19 – The Church Room – 7.00pm**

### **Present**

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

Clerk G Turner

County Cllr G Sanderson (Left the meeting at 7.15)

PC Teasdale (Left the meeting at 7.25)

W Gunn (Village Maintenance) (Left the meeting at 7.35)

3 Parishioners

1. **Apologies for Absence** – Cllr P Brannan.
2. **Minutes** of the Parish Council Meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> February, 2019 (which had been previously circulated) were approved, and duly signed.
3. **Declaration of Interests** – I Elliott re 8.2 (i) Logs  
K Foreman re 9.1 (f) Stephenson's Garage.
4. **Date of Next Meeting(s)** – It was agreed that the dates of the next meetings would be 10<sup>th</sup> April for the Parish Council meeting, 8<sup>th</sup> May for the Annual Parish Council meeting and 15<sup>th</sup> May for the Annual Assembly of the Parish meeting.
5. **County Matters**

Councillor Sanderson gave the following updates:

- Recycling waste is currently going to West Sleekburn with ordinary household waste going to Teesside where it is burnt. NCC will be introducing a kerbside recycling pilot scheme for glass recycling in 2019/20 and if the pilot proves to be successful, it is hoped that this could be rolled out to all areas in 2020/21.
- NCC has also carried out a resurfacing trial using plastic flakes recycled from some 20,000 plastic bags. Monitoring will take place to see how long the repairs last.
- Dog fouling complaints have reduced from 1,900 to 1,300, maybe as a result of NCC introducing the Green Walker initiative which encourages people to be responsible dog walkers. Where possible, NCC has been tough on prosecutions with some 20-30 taking place during the year (which is similar to fly-tipping rates).  
The Clerk highlighted LPC initiative with local school children to design stickers for litter/dog bins. Cllr Sanderson said that he and NCC would be more than happy to promote this initiative.
- NCC had been considering cost savings to be introduced at the household waste centres, however he was pleased to inform the meeting that there would be no reductions in the opening hours at the centres. He also highlighted that it cost NCC some £2.5m to clear up litter in the County.

- Cllr Pringle reported that there was a recent incident of Fly-Tipping on the Moor and that the Clerk had reported this to NCC through the website.

Cllr Sanderson left the meeting at this point 7.15pm.

## **6. Update from PC Andrea Teasdale**

PC Teasdale gave the following update:

- Residents were asked to report any suspicious behaviour via the Police 101 telephone number – all reports were considered as confidential. There had been reports of thefts from the school, allotments and football shed – there also could be a drug connection to the thefts. Karbon homes has been informed but they need to know any activity being undertaken in/from their properties.
- Additional poaching patrols have been taking place. News reports of the llama being shot at the wildlife sanctuary have publicised poaching problems in the area. A TV programme will air soon featuring Northumbria.

PC Teasdale left the meeting at this point 7.25pm.

## **7. Finance**

**7.1 Authorisation of Payments** – Members considered and approved the Authorisation of Payments list to 13<sup>th</sup> March, 2019, totalling £7,349.12. The Clerk informed members that an additional list will be produced at the end of March to coincide with the end of the financial year.

**7.2 Full Accounts 2018/19** – Members received and considered the Accounts and Transactions file to date, including petty cash and bank reconciliation documents to the end of February.

## **8. Routine Items for Review**

**8.1a) Review of Planning Applications:** - no applications have been considered since the last meeting, however two were now currently being viewed (Lyndhurst and SE of Shoulder of Mutton). The Clerk was asked to contact NCC Planning to ask for an extension to the Shoulder of Mutton application (responses due 1<sup>st</sup> April) due to the scale, complexity and sensitivity of the application.

**b) Planning Decisions:-** no decisions had been received since the last meeting.

## **8.2 Moor Management Scheme**

Cllr Pringle provided a verbal report which highlighted the following:

- i. As there is still a surplus of wood available, the Chairman had spoken to a local contractor (A Heron) that in lieu of Mr Heron taking some of the wood, he would carry out essential improvements to the Village Hall main doors and frame et al. Members unanimously agreed to this proposal.

*Cllr Elliott declared a personal interest in this topic as he knew the contractor.*

- ii. Cllr Pringle had removed some of the slats on the kissing gate in order to increase the space to allow people gain easier access.
- iii. 2-3 acres of heather burning had recently taken place – some concerns had been raised as to some of the dead heather still being above ground. Cllr Pringle has been informed that these dead-heads will fall naturally.
- iv. 6 new sheep have been added to the flock, which now totals 32 sheep on the Moor.
- v. As stated earlier, an incident of fly tipping has been reported on the track leading off the A697.
- vi. An advisor from the Woodland Trust had recently visited the Moor and found specimens of rare Lichens – which have now been registered.
- vii. Cllr Ford informed the meeting that the official unveiling ceremony of the War Memorial plaque is to take place on 9<sup>th</sup> April at 2pm, with the Mayor and County Councillors in attendance.

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

Cllr Ford provided a verbal report which highlighted the following:

- i. A community tree planting event has been arranged for Sunday morning 17<sup>th</sup> March.
- ii. Several trees have now been removed from the sewer line.
- iii. Mr Fish has organised 25 school children, who are members of the Eco-Warriors, to plant 25 trees on 20<sup>th</sup> March.
- iv. J Chisholm and Son will continue to mow paths and tree lines.

**8.4 Village Play Areas** – the Clerk informed members that all of the necessary funding is now in place to proceed with the MUGA refurbishment project. She is continuing to ensure that all of the official paperwork is signed-off with an anticipated project start date of April being considered. She has a meeting with the finance officer of LEADER on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March to sort out grant claims etc. Once Sport England give the official go ahead, the preferred contractor Wicksteed Leisure can make a start. A pre-contract visit will take place with a Wicksteed representative before works begin. The Clerk proposed that the official opening take place at the Annual Assembly of the Parish on 15<sup>th</sup> May, with both adult and young teams playing matches. Invitations will be sent to each of the funding organisations to attend. The organisation, management and operation of the facility will be discussed at a later meeting.

**The meeting was adjourned at 8.00 pm to allow parishioners to speak.**

The meeting was informed that the wooden shed on the Common had been broken into. It was proposed that this wooden shed be replaced with a couple of steel containers and re-sited for added security. Members requested the representative of the football team to bring proposed site plans back to Council for consideration.

**No other issues were raised and the meeting recommenced at 8.05 pm**

**8.5 Allotments** – The Clerk informed the meeting that she had been given the annual rental income earlier in the evening.

**8.6 Plants & Flowers** – The Clerk confirmed that she will be placing an order for 3 new planters and asked Cllr Lowrie if it would still be convenient for him to take delivery at his business premises.

## **8.7 Village Maintenance Issues**

- a) Members received and considered the list of NCC member schemes.
- b) Members were informed of reports of problem trees overhanging Ladyford Lonnen. Members were unsure as to the owners of the land i.e. was it private, a public right of way or something else. Cllr Ford agreed to speak to Mr Fish for advice, whilst Cllr Pringle will speak to Mr Dickinson.
- c) Members considered again the placement of a grit bin at Wilding Place. It was agreed to relocate a spare bin from Church View but the positioning of the new bin still needed to be agreed. It was agreed to defer this issue until after the negotiations were finalised with Cussins for the land transfer.

## **8.8 LPC Website**

Nothing to add at this time.

**8.9 Longhorsley Tree** – the Clerk was asked to write articles covering the Annual Assembly of the Parish and MUGA update. The Transport Flyer would also be issued with this edition of the Tree.

**8.10 Donation Requests** – None received.

## **9 Items Carried Forward**

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

- a) Reivers Gate/Wilding Place – The Chairman informed the meeting that documentation had been received from solicitors. However, the papers contained lots of exclusions with regards to the site and associated pipes underneath - members agreed to bounce the papers back for further consideration as the restrictions may mean that the site is so small and therefore not worthwhile.
- b) South Road Development – The planning application paperwork has arrived, with a response deadline of 1 April – as mentioned in 9.1 (a) above the Clerk will ask for a formal extension due to the scale, complexity and sensitivity of the application. The Chairman has contacted Northern Gas Networks regarding the possibility of introducing gas to the Village.
- c) East Road Development – nothing to report.
- d) Kirkups Corner – nothing to report.
- e) Lyndhurst Planning query – members noted the response from NCC.
- f) Stephenson's Garage Planning query – members noted the response from NCC.  
*Cllr Foreman declared a personal interest in this topic as she was a user of the garage.*

### **9.2 Neighbourhood Planning**

Cllr Brannan had issued the Clerk with an updated CAP report stating that he has not had any success in getting a response from NCC on the allocation of resources to assist with a conservation area appraisal. The Transportation Flyer is complete and should be issued with the next edition of the Tree.

He had spoken to PCL about the M1 bus service, and it was confirmed that this service is no longer in operation.

**9.3 Village Green Issues** – ongoing.

**9.4 Welcome Letters** – no letters sent this month.

## **10. Other Agenda Items**

- 10.1 The Clerk informed the meeting that she had received the resignation of Cllr Brannan with effect from 30<sup>th</sup> April. Members acknowledged the excellent work Cllr Brannan had achieved in getting the Neighbourhood Plan to fruition. The Clerk will issue the formal documents/notice to NCC at the end of April.
- 10.2 The Clerk informed members of the slow progress being made in getting a “.gov.uk domain”.
- 10.3 Members received the email re: Superfast Broadband.
- 10.4 Grit bin request at Wilding Place – please see above 8.7 (c) above.

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

None.

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

- 12.1 Members received the email from NALC re Training Courses and were asked to contact the Clerk if interested in attending.
- 12.2 Members received correspondence from the Northumberland and Newcastle Society re NCC Local Plan and Windfarms.
- 12.3 The Clerk reminded members of the upcoming elections and the importance of Purdah.
- 12.4 Members were reminded that the Community Award nominations would need to be considered at the next meeting of Council.
- 12.5 Members were also reminded that the children’s artwork for the dog waste initiative would need to be assessed at the next meeting of Council.

The meeting closed at 8.58 pm.