

LONGFRAMLINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING

Meeting on: 6th February 2019
Meeting at: Longframlington Memorial Hall
Meeting time: 7:03 pm
Present: Cllrs: Gillian Apthorpe (GA), Allison Davis (AD), Graham Fremlin (GF) - Chair, Diane Lakey (DL), John Munro (JM), Dave Wellden (DW). Gillian Nelles (GN)
In attendance: Councillor Trevor Thorne, Clerk: Garth Rhodes.
The meeting opened at 7:03 pm

1. **Councillor Appointment.** Allison Davis was welcomed to the meeting as the new Parish Councillor. Peter Topping's email response to the Clerk, after receiving his letter indicating he was not successful at interview, was received.
2. **Apologies for Absence** – GN apologised for late arrival at 7.20 as she was attending a previous meeting on the PC's behalf
3. **The following Urgent Business to be discussed in 18 below was agreed** –
 - a) Footpath & Stiles through Miller Homes Development
 - b) Benches for the Green
 - c) West House, Rothbury Road
 - d) Northumberland Local Plan Publication Draft Plan & Consultation.
 - e) Rothbury Community Hospital - Engagement
4. **Declaration of Interests** – JM declared his interest in the 18/04434/FUL - R. Green & Son Planning Application
5. **Gifts & Hospitality** - None
6. **Community Police Report** – There was no Police Representative or report received. Clerk to write to the community police representative to say that the PC were disappointed not to have received a report after being told we would receive one. **Action: Clerk**
7. **County Councillors Report** – Cllr Thorne announced that he would contribute £5,000 towards the cost of the new play equipment. GF thanked him for this generous donation, on behalf of the PC. TT had written to the Head of Planning re the Planning application 17/03662/FUL for two holiday homes: Land to the East of Longframlington Gardens which was still listed on the Planning Website as permitted, when in fact this decision had been overturned. The agreement was to revoke the Planning Permission for this development but as this was a lengthy process this process hadn't yet been completed, hence the reason why the website hadn't been updated. TT apologised for the length of time this had taken. TT had followed up with Highways regarding the problem of the Street Light outside 2 Sea View which was shining directly into the bedroom. He reported that a cover would be placed over the light to stop it shining into the property. With respect to the developments to improve the junction at the north end of the village, he had been told that the recommendations would be put to him before implementation, but this had not been the case. Whilst there had been significant improvements to lighting and footpaths there was no improvement to the junction itself. He felt that the planners had taken 'their eye off the ball' and 'put all their eggs' in the Armstrong development which had subsequently been refused. He felt that there was not much that could be done and apologised for the actions of the planners. GA asked about why snow clearing seemed only to take place on the bus routes in the village when Rothbury seemed to get all their streets cleared. TT responded by saying that much snow clearance is being done by volunteers. GF reported that he was awaiting a quotation from a local contractor to clear snow in the village. TT was asked if it would be possible for NCC to provide the grit for the contractor, if LPC arranged locally for snow clearance. He thought that there would be a strong possibility of this and suggested that a request be made through Cllr Glen Sanderson. Cllr Thorne was asked how much money from the additional funds for road repairs was to be spent in Longframlington. The planned report on repairs (with costings) for the County was imminent. GF pointed out that Longhorsley in comparison to Longframlington (which was a much larger village) was getting much more provision for crossings and road safety. TT agreed that what Longhorsley received appeared disproportionate. It was agreed that a letter be written to Cllr Sanderson indicating our concerns. **Action: GF/Clerk**
8. **Minutes Of Previous Meeting** - The minutes of the meeting held on 9th January 2019 were reviewed, unanimously approved as a true record & signed as such.

Housekeeping Issues

9. **Matters Arising Out Of Minutes** - To receive updates on the following matters not appearing elsewhere on the agenda:
 - a) A697 Road Repairs. GF had received a visit from the NCC Highways Design Engineer and was told that there was to be a full resurfacing of the whole section of the A697 through the village repaired in 2017. They will send details of the planned work and timescale, in due course and asked that the PC call a meeting with local business in order to agree when would be the best time to carry out the repairs. Most of the work will be carried out using convoy traffic management without having to close the full road, although this will be necessary for some stretches. TT said that the sub-surface work completed in 2017 had been to a high standard, however, the top surface patching had not been successful, hence the need for a full resurfacing. Repairs to C106 - GF reported that Highways had publicised the wrong dates for the work (11 February – 8th March) and incorrect information regarding the upcoming road repairs on the C106. This was upsetting some local people. The work will start on 18th February and the road will not be closed at all times during the repairs and will be open from 6.00.p.m- 6.00 a.m. People living in the immediate vicinity will be enabled access throughout the repair period. TT was asked to report the PCs concerns to Highways and inform them of the importance of disseminating correct information. Cllr Thorne had asked for vigorous pruning of trees at Alnwick Fords. **Action: TT**
 - b) Sports Court Electricity Bill and Meter. British Gas Customer Services still monitoring the situation. Meter was read by sub-contractor and we have been billed satisfactorily.
 - c) GDPR Audit and Next Steps. The Cllrs and Clerk have gone through the majority of the files held in the two filing cupboards in the Memorial Hall. Much of this has been disposed. There is a small amount of material that requires archiving at Woodhorn. The

TT left the meeting

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remainder of the files to be checked probably hold more of the important documentation either to be archived or stored in the Memorial Hall. Cllrs agreed that this would be undertaken on Tuesday 26th February at 6.30 p.m. **Action: All**

- d) Speeding- request for deployment of speed monitoring strips and vehicle. NCC agreed and installed monitoring strips on the Rothbury Road. Initially they were placed in the wrong place opposite the entrance to the Green, where traffic is slowing down. They agreed to move the strips to the two main areas to the west of the village where speeding is a problem. However, when this was done the strips were deliberately vandalised on two occasions. The second time was only two hours after the strip had been replaced. NCC have removed the strips temporarily but will be putting them back and to be monitored by a surveillance camera.

- 10. Meetings to Attend / Attended** - North Northumberland Local Area Council & presentation on current consultation on the Local Plan: 3.00 p.m. Thursday 21st February, St James Church Centre. GF agreed to attend the meeting and offered lifts to any other members wanting to attend.

11. Finance

- a) Receipts in the months of January were agreed

02/01/2019	A Christie	Allotment Rent & Water Rates (10b)	chq	35.50
08/01/2019	C P Deathe	Allotment Rent (3a)	chq	10.00
08/01/2019	R & W Horne	Allotment Rent (4)	cash	20.00
23/01/2019	M Laidler	Allotment Rent & Water Rates (9)	chq	35.50
17/01/2019	B & S Taynton	Allotment Rent & Water Rates (16a)	chq	17.75
25/01/2019	G & M Owen	Allotment Rent (5)	chq	20.00
29/01/2019	E Gallon	Allotment Rent & Water Rates (8b)	cash	17.75
30/01/2019	P Jeffrey	Allotment Rent (5b)	cash	10.00
21/01/2019	Weatherston/T Scott	Allotment Rent & Water Rates (10a)	BACs	35.50
11/01/2019	C Brennan	Allotment Rent & Water Rates (11b)	BACs	17.75
15/01/2019	B Veitch	Allotment Rent & Water Rates (15a)	BACs	17.75
16/01/2019	A Bolton	Allotment Rent & Water Rates (16b)	BACs	17.75
02/01/2019	L/fam Memorial Hall	Ground Rent S/O	s/o	25.00
			Total	280.25

- b) Clerk's salary, expenses, PAYE & NI and other payments were approved.

21/01/2019	NCC	Extra Grass Cuts	200135	417.60
21/01/2018	British Gas	Electricity Sports Court re f710160000	d/dr	9.99
02/02/2018	S.L. Hoyle	Installation football posts	200136	310.00
02/02/2018	Garth Rhodes	Reimburse Norton Security	200137	29.99
06/02/2019	HMRC	PAYE	200138	88.20
06/02/2019	Garth Rhodes	Salary & Expenses	200139	363.25
06/02/2019	LPC	Recharge Clerk's wages to cemetery (Jan)	Journal	-52.57
			Total	1166.46

- c) Requests for donations: It was agreed to donate £50 to Bailiffgate Museum (DL proposed, JM seconded). Members were not in favour of sponsoring the North East War Memorials Project but agreed to donate £50. **Action: Clerk**

- d) Bank Reconciliation to 6th February 2019 was approved.

Balance per bank statements				£
at 25th January 2019		Community account		68411.73
		Business Saver		6087.24
				74498.97
Less unrepresented cheques				
		Cemetery	0.00	
	Parish Council	21/01/2019	NCC	417.60
		02/02/2018	S. L. Hoyle	310.00
		02/02/2018	Garth Rhodes	29.99
		06/02/2019	HMRC	88.20
		06/02/2019	Garth Rhodes	363.25
				1209.04
Uncredited Deposits – Cemetery				
	Parish Council	02/01/2019	A Christie	35.50
		08/01/2019	C P Deathe	10.00
		08/01/2019	R & W Horne	20.00

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	23/01/2019	M Laidler	35.50	
	17/01/2019	B & S Taynton	17.75	
	25/01/2019	G & M Owen	20.00	
	29/01/2019	E Gallon	17.75	
	30/01/2019	P Jeffrey	10.00	
	Cemetery	C & S Clarke	200.00	
				366.50
Balance per cash book 31/01/19				73656.43
Balance per cash book	PC			57647.87
	Cemetery			16008.36
				73656.23

* The 0.20p difference between the Bank statement and Cash Book is due to 0.20p error in the bank statement on cheque no. 200076 to HMRC in April 2018 Bank Statement

e) Quotations:

- Extra grass cuts by NCC. The costs for 2018/19 of £348 + VAT (a 7% rise on the previous year) were approved.
- Laying hogging around outdoor gym equipment. Gavin Christie quoted for supplying and laying hard-core chipping. Total Price £294.00. This was agreed.
- Fixing of football posts in sports court. It became apparent that the new football posts required substantial fixing into position. S.L. Hoyle quoted for the work at a total cost of £310. This was agreed by delegated powers. GF reminded members of that the PC must conform to correct procedures for agreeing work and the purchasing of materials.

12. Village Activities – None

13. Allotments

- Management: There were 6 outstanding payments for rent and water bills. (However some payments by BACS may have been made since the last bank statement but will not be known until February bank statement is received.) JM to follow up outstanding payments. Action: JM
- a) Maintenance:
 - Clearing of plots 1 & 2 – To be undertaken before the next meeting Action: JM
 - Plot 10b – This plot had not yet been tidied up. JM to see plot holder. Action: JM

14. King George V Playing Field including:

- a) Proposal and quotations for replacement of the multiplay equipment & submission for S106 funding. The order for the Kompan Multiplay equipment has been made. Total Excl. VAT = 18,841.32. Installation will not take place until the outcome of the S106 application is known on 7th March. GA is leading on the submission of the application. TT had agreed to give £5k funding towards the cost of the equipment. Action: GA
- b) Sports courts and playground
 - The written report for November 2018 on the inspection of the condition of equipment etc at the sports courts and playground was now completed. GN to submit this to the Clerk to be paced on record. Action: GN
 - Locking of the sports court. Recently the bottom gate to the sports court had not been unlocked through the day. Clerk wrote to Chris Hall who was responsible for the locking/unlocking of the gates. He apologised saying that of late the lock had been freezing but he had agreed that both gates would be opened from now on. He reported that there had been no further problems of the court being used late in the evening and said the problems were more or less resolved once the gates had been locked. He was happy to continue to manage the locking of the gates.
- c) Installation of replacement football nets and posts for sports court was now complete.
- d) Painting of football posts and gates on playing field. JM to obtain the paint by the following week. Action: JM
- e) MoD assistance with repairs to the Tank Turn. Clerk had written to a contact at the MoD Otterburn but no reply as yet received.

15. Planning

a) To note any planning issues since previous meeting:

Ref No	Description	NCC Status	Parish Council Position
18/02671/FUL	Westroad Garage, Rothbury Road. Erection of 10 residential units	Registered /Amended	See minutes from previous meeting for PC responses
18/02843/FUL	Land West of Hawthorns - 24 houses	Refused	See minutes from previous meeting for PC responses
18/03231/FUL	Land North Of Fairfields - 58 houses	Registered	See minutes from previous meeting for PC responses
18/03182/FUL	Ashlea, Longframlington - 5 houses	Registered	See minutes from previous meeting for PC responses
18/03489/OUT	Former Quarry Land East Of Framhill Farm – Caravan park	Registered	See minutes from previous meeting for PC responses.
18/04434/FUL	R Green & Son Front Street - new single storey extension	Registered	No objection
18/0453/FUL:	Land East of Granby	WITHDRAWN	Not able to register our comment

Key: Items in grey new or changed since last meeting

18/02843/FUL Land West of Hawthorns had been refused because of the possibility of flooding and the effect of the village encroaching into the countryside. 18/03231/FUL Land North of Fairfields the consultation period had been extended until the end of

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March. The developer has been in touch with GF to inform him of new plans with new communal parking areas and a roundabout capable of taking buses. Revised plans were not yet available on the planning website.

To discuss on-going planning concerns raised with NCC Planning Department. GF provided members with a detailed overview of the on-going problems that had been raised with the Planning Department with respect to planning issues in the village and in particular those concerning the processing and control of planning applications: 11/01107/FUL Land west of Light Pipe Farm and 16/00745/FUL North End Farm:

GF had, after making many attempts to make contact, eventually spoken to the Head of Planning about these matters. She said that if the Parish Council wished to make an official complaint she would accommodate this. In the meantime she would send out a Planning Officer to inspect what had/had not been done. The members discussed what they wanted to do about this matter. There appeared to be two options, to make an official complaint and/or take the matter to the Press. Protocol dictated that a complaint should not be taken to the press whilst being officially considered. It was unanimously agreed that Longframlington Parish Council make an official complaint about the processing and control of Planning applications 11/01107/FUL Land west of Light Pipe Farm and 16/00745/FUL North End Farm on the grounds that that:

- The Highways and Planning Departments failed to use due diligence, in the appraisal of the re-alignment of the junction of the A697/C106, which was a central concern in both applications.

- The matters (outlined in GF's report) represented a failure in NCC's duty of care to residents and road users and resulting in the roads in this area being more dangerous for pedestrians and other road users.

- b) Housing Development Plan. Clerk has written to Head of Planning regarding LPC's proposal/support, for sheltered housing in the village, to be included in the NCC Housing Development Plan. A reply had been received from Phillip Soderquest, Head of Housing and Public Protection acknowledging receipt and indicating that the letter will be given due consideration.

16. Action Plan – February 2019

- Tree Review. All members were asked to review the trees in their vicinity. **Action: ALL**
- George V Playing Field – Review of assets and inspection of the condition and record equipment at the Sports Courts and Playground. **Action: DW**

Main Issues

17. Terms of Reference: Neighbourhood Plan Committee. The draft TORs were approved, pending minor amendments. AD to amend, forward to members for final approval and then to GF for signature. **Action: AD**

18. Any Urgent Business

a) Footpath & Stiles through Miller Homes Development

- Closure of Footpath. The footpath has been inspected by the Area Countryside Officer, Tony Derbyshire (TD), who was not impressed by the closure and state of the footpath and had told Millers that the matter must be resolved before the end of the week or further action would be taken.
- Stiles at each end of the footpath. One of his main concerns about this site were the stiles at either side of the development, the stone stile out of the caravan park and the ladder stile into David Thompson's field (which Miller Homes has been asked to repair as it was missing a tread). TD thinks these structures are out of place next to a residential development and would like to replace them with wicket gates (or a kissing gate, if there is concern that stock could escape), but he is not sure what the landowners on either side would think about this as he suspects the boundaries are theirs rather than the developers. He had asked if anyone from the Parish would be willing to do a little local negotiation as there was little pressure he could exert. He was also to raise this with Miller Homes. Members were of one mind that they did not want to replace the existing stiles with wicket/kissing gates. The stone stile has probably been there for centuries and the nature of the stiles helped to maintain the rural character of the village. Clerk to inform TD. **Action: Clerk**

b) Benches for the Green. FramNews have some reserves which they would like to use to purchase benches to go alongside the football pitch on the Green. The prices for re-cycled plastic park benches with backs are about £300-400 each which would mean they could only afford to purchase one. They could possibly afford two without backs and wanted to know which the PC would prefer? It was agreed that the preference was for two benches without backs. **Action: Clerk**

c) West House, Rothbury Road – A request had been received to lower the level of the allotment adjacent the property. The level of the soil in the allotment is banked 6-7 inches above and against the property and was a possible cause of damp. It was agreed that the resident would need to provide a detailed report from a qualified surveyor outlining the cause of the problem with recommendations of appropriate corrective measures, before the Parish Council would be able to fully consider how they should respond to this request. **Action: Clerk**

d) Northumberland Local Plan Publication Draft Plan & Consultation. A hard copy of the Plan and associated documents were made available at the meeting. Any comments have to be submitted by 13th March and it was agreed that this issue would be discussed at the next PC meeting on 6th March.

e) Rothbury Community Hospital – Engagement. An email had been received from Cllr Steven Bridget responding to a request from Stephen Young, Strategic Head of Corporate Affairs, NHS Northumberland Clinical Commissioning Group, inviting him to be part of an engagement group considering the future of Rothbury Hospital. In his response Cllr Bridget recommended that local parishes, including Longframlington, also be part of the group.

19. Date of Next Meeting. Wednesday 6th March 2019 at 7.00 p.m.

Items to be included in the agenda:

- Boots the Chemist
- The Northumberland Plan

The meeting closed at 9.49 p.m.

Garth Rhodes – Clerk to Longframlington Parish Council.

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